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SPECIAL ASEAN MINISTERS MEETING TO ADMIT BRUNEI 7 JAN

BK171245 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 17 Nov 83

[Text] The deputy minister of foreign affairs, Encik Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir, says during question time [in parliament] -- that a special meeting of ASEAN ministers will be held on 7 January to officially admit Brunei as a member of ASEAN. Preparations are being made to admit Brunei as the sixth member of ASEAN after she achieves independence.

ASEAN MINISTERS WELCOME JAPANESE AID IN SCIENCE

BK171459 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 17 Nov 83

[Text] The second meeting of the ASEAN research and technology ministers ended today in Jakarta. Among other things, the ministers stressed the importance of science and technology for economic development. On international cooperation in science and technology, ASEAN welcomes both regional and international cooperation with its partners. The ASEAN ministers also welcome the steps which have been taken by Japan to further promote ASEAN-Japanese cooperation in science and technology as proposed by Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

The ASEAN ministers this afternoon were received by President Suharto at Bina Graha. The third meeting of the ASEAN research and technology ministers will be held in Malaysia.

BANGKOK REPORTS STATEMENT BY ASEAN POLICE CHIEFS

BK210717 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The third meeting of police chiefs of the ASEAN member countries has issued a joint statement aimed at increasing police cooperation in fighting crimes in the region. The six-point statement stresses the importance of ASEAN police cooperation in combating such crimes as narcotics, counterfeiting, banking crimes, and illegal arms sale. It also calls for simplification of procedures to expedite subjects with due regard to the [word indistinct] situation enforced in each member country.

The statement asks for greater speed in dealing with serious cases through the use of communications system. To improve the professional skills of the police in each member country, a wide ranging ASEAN personnel exchange and education program will be developed. To monitor implementation of the conference's decision, an ASEAN police secretariat will be formed in Jakarta for the period of 1983 to 1984 to assist the Indonesian police chief as chairman of the ASEAN police chiefs' forum during the period.

OMANI OIL MINISTER ASKS NAKASONE FOR AID

OW221131 Tokyo KYODO in English 1114 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Tokyo Nov 22 KYODO -- Oman Oil Minister Sa'id Ahmad ash-Shanfari met Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Tuesday and asked for Japan's financial assistance to the Arab state's irrigation program and other development projects.

The visiting Cabinet minister handed Nakasone a personal letter from Oman's King Qabus, according to Japanese officials. The minister reportedly told Nakasone his country is setting aside half of its national budget to protect the Straits of Hormuz, thus serving Japan's interest.

Most shipments of Arab crude oil for Japan are through the Straits of Hormuz at the mouth of the Persian Gulf. Ash-Shanfari urged Japan to extend economic cooperation to his country, saying although Oman is an oil producing country, it is not as rich as might be expected, the official said. Nakasone replied he understood well the strategic importance of the Gulf country and promised to study Oman's request for economic assistance, the official said.

JOINT MINISTERIAL TALKS WITH IRAQIS END

JN221946 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] The fourth session of the Joint Iraqi-Japanese Ministerial Committee ended in Tokyo today by the signing of two documents containing joint minutes on the talks and exchanged letters.

The two documents were signed in the Iraqi side by Hasan 'Ali, Revolution Command Council member and trade minister, while on the Japanese side the documents were signed by Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe.

The two sides expressed their desire to expand trade exchange and promote economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. They also agreed to increase the Japanese companies' participation in development projects in Iraq and to hold the next session in Baghdad on a date to be set later.

FOREIGN MINISTRY APOLOGIZES TO PRC FOR BROKEN STATUE

OW230415 Tokyo KYODO in English 0403 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Tokyo Nov 23 KYODO -- The Foreign Ministry Tuesday expressed to the Chinese Embassy a sincere apology and regret over an incident in which a drunken Japanese broke an ancient Chinese ceramic statue of a warrior on public display in Osaka the same day.

Osaka police arrested Ryuji Yasaka, 36, from Shiga Prefecture, for breaking the statue, about 2,200 years old excavated 10 years ago in China. The Foreign Ministry worries that the incident may give an adverse effect on the eight-day official visit by Chinese Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang to Japan beginning Wednesday.

Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone also instructed the Foreign Ministry Tuesday night to study future measures, including the dispatch of a special envoy, to apologize to China for the incident. No political background has been found in the incident, according to police investigation.

Prime Minister Nakasone will personally apologize to Chinese leader Hu over the incident during their talks here Thursday, government sources said.

Meanwhile, the Osaka 21st Century Association, which sponsors the exhibition of Chinese treasures in Osaka, decided Tuesday night to continue the display until the end of this month as planned.

This decision followed a conditional agreement from the Chinese Consulate in Osaka and the Chinese Treasure Exhibition authorities.

The Chinese reply agreed to the continued display on grounds that display guards and safety steps are reinforced and Japan and China jointly mend the broken statue. Party General Secretary Hu, who arrives in Tokyo Wednesday afternoon for an official tour, will visit the display hall as planned.

The sponsoring Japanese association expressed thanks for the Chinese response, saying that it will take every measure to prevent such an incident.

PRIME MINISTER TO DISSOLVE LOWER HOUSE 28 NOV

OW221145 Tokyo KYODO in English 1121 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Tokyo Nov 22 KYODO -- Ruling and opposition parties in the upper house have basically agreed to clear all key bills at a plenary session November 28, enabling Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to dissolve the lower house later in the day, political sources said Tuesday.

The sources said the agreement has made it certain that a general election December 18, in which the Nakasone administration inaugurated last November will seek a new mandate, will be announced December 3.

The ruling Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP) originally wanted to hold the upper house plenary session November 26 but it has decided to delay it for two days in view of slow bill deliberations in committees. The bills involved include those on tax cuts and administrative reform.

The sources said the major opposition Japan Socialist Party (JSP), after these key bills are cleared through the upper house plenary session, will present a vote of nonconfidence against the Nakasone Cabinet to the lower house. Nakasone will then disband the house, they said.

The general election, the first in three years and a half, will be held amid political turmoil caused by a guilty verdict on former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka by the Tokyo District Court last month for his involvement in the Lockheed payoff scandal.

NAKASONE PLEDGES TO KEEP DEFENSE COSTS LOW

OW221141 Tokyo KYODO in English 1033 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Tokyo Nov 22 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone pledged in the Diet (parliament) Tuesday to hold the nation's defense expenses under 1 percent of gross national product (GNP).

Replying to questions by opposition Dietmen in the upper house Special Committee on Administrative Reform, Nakasone said he would make efforts to maintain the principle of keeping the defense costs below 1 percent of GNP. He also said he wants to pledge not to raise taxes in his Liberal-Democratic Party's platform for a general election to be called possibly next month.

Nakasone thus toned down his statement in the same committee Monday that his party will include a pledge not to raise taxes in the party platform for the election.

While parrying opposition interpellations on political ethics, Nakasone said he would basically support an opposition-sponsored resolution calling for establishment of political ethics, presented before the upper house early last month. The opposition camp presented the resolution following former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka's conviction in the biggest postwar bribery scandal in Japan last month.

Tanaka, Nakasone's main political backer, was sentenced to four years in prison by the Tokyo District Court for taking massive bribes from the U.S. aircraft maker Lockheed while in office in the early 1970s. Tanaka immediately appealed to the Tokyo High Court and said he would not succumb to opposition pressure to give up the lower house seat he has held for 36 years, stalling Diet business for more than one month. Diet proceedings returned to normal last week.

In the day's afternoon session, Communist Shinnosuke Kamitani criticized the government for plotting to raise indirect taxes in return for a 1.21 trillion yen (5.1 billion dollars) tax cut plan for 1983 and 1984.

Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita, refuting the criticism, said the government will study the question of raising indirect taxes when it receives a recommendation by the government's tax commission to do so. Communist Koichiro Ueda, who took the floor for related interpellation, criticized Nakasone for his understanding of the U.S. invasion of Grenada but Nakasone spurned the criticism by saying the case was different from the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Besides Kamitani, Socialist Wataru Kubo grilled Nakasone on political ethics in the day's morning session.

Nakasone said the political ethics problem is an overall one facing all political circles and criticized the opposition camp for placing too much stress on the political ethics problem while avoiding taking up tax cuts and other issues.

The ad hoc committee wound up two days of general deliberations on administrative reform-related bills and plans to put them to a vote Saturday.

TWO ARRESTED FOR SHOOTING AT CHONGNYON OFFICE

OW211217 Tokyo KYODO in English 1207 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Tokyo Nov 21 KYODO -- Police arrested two gangsters Monday for shooting up the head office here of the pro-Pyongyang General Association of Korean Residents in Japan [Chongnyon] last Friday.

The arrested were identified as Yi Chong-sik, 31, a South Korean resident in Japan, and Hidekichi Yonesato, 29, both of the Kobe-based Nagai-Gumu gang affiliated with the Yamaguchi-Gumi syndicate.

Police believe they fired gunshots at the association's building to protest the October 9 bomb explosion in Rangoon, which the Burmese Government has blamed on North Korean saboteurs. The two were charged with an attempted murder and illegal possession of guns.

They were arrested when they surrendered to the Kojimachi police station in Tokyo. Police confiscated two handguns, which they used, in a Tokyo hotel. Yonesato was also a rightist group member, police said.

The two sneaked into the compounds of the association and fired a total of 12 shots police said. There were no casualties.

BRIEFS

PRC POLYESTER ORDERS -- Osaka Nov 9 KYODO -- Today Industries, Inc., Teijin Ltd. and four other Japanese textile firms have won Chinese orders for 3,000 tons of polyester staple for shipment in the first quarter of 1984, industry sources said Wednesday. The companies refused to give contract prices but indicated they were set at a level 15 percent higher than those for shipment in the current October-December quarter. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0631 9 Nov 83 OW]

REPORTAGE ON DPRK-PRC AGREEMENT ANNIVERSARY

NODONG SINMUM Editorial

SK230324 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2237 GMT 22 Nov 83

[NODONG SINMUM 23 November editorial: "The 30 Years of Fraternal Cooperation"]

[Text] Today marks the 30th anniversary of the conclusion of the agreement for economic and cultural cooperation between our country and the PRC.

The conclusion of the Korea-China agreement for economic and cultural cooperation on 23 November 1953 was of great significance in strengthening the traditional friendship and further developing the economic and cultural cooperation between the peoples of Korea and China, struggling shoulder to shoulder to oppose imperialism and to win victory of the cause of socialism.

During the period of the past 30 years since the conclusion of the agreement, through multi-faceted cooperation and exchanges in the economic and cultural fields, Korea and China have vigorously accelerated revolution and construction. During this course, the peoples of the two countries have highly displayed the fine tradition of helping and supporting each other and learning from each other, and further consolidated their friendship and cohesion.

At present, the economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries is being deepened and developed in an even broader range.

The vitality and correctness of the Korea-China agreement for economic and cultural cooperation have been vigorously proven through the successful revolution and construction of the two countries.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught as follows: The Korean people and the Chinese people have shared their fate on the road of revolution and are advancing shoulder to shoulder for the common objectives of self-reliance, independence, and socialism.

Through close cooperation in the economic and cultural fields, the friendship between the peoples of the two countries have been further strengthened and Korea-China friendship is being consolidated with each passing day. Korea and China are neighbors which share borders, and the peoples of the two countries are comrades-in-arms who shared their fate in special friendship. To achieve the common goals and ideals, the peoples of Korea and China have hand in hand, traversed the path of victory, jointly advanced over the hills of trial and jointly fighting bloody battles.

Korean-China friendship is the great one which the great leader of our people Comrade Kim Il-song, along with the great leader of the Chinese people Comrade Mao Zedong and the respected Comrade Zhou Enlai, personally established and developed. Thus, the traditional Korea-China friendship is invincible and nothing can destroy it.

Today, the friendship between the parties, governments, and peoples of Korea and China is fully blooming and developing on a new, higher stage. The visit to China by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the visit to our country by the respected Comrades Hu Yaobang and Deng Xiaoping, which took place last year, were events of historic significance in consolidating and developing the Korea-China friendship.

The visit to China last summer by Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the party Central Committee, was a new milestone for continuing to glorify generation after generation the tradition of the Korea-China friendship which was sealed in blood in the flames of the arduous revolutionary struggle and has overcome all kinds of historic trials.

In addition, the visit to our country last September by the party and government delegation of China with Comrade Peng Zhen as the head and Comrade Hu Gili, as the deputy head, greatly contributed to displaying the vitality of Korea-China friendship and consolidating and developing it.

Closely cooperating and supporting each other in economic, cultural, and many other fields, the peoples of Korea and China are vigorously accelerating socialist construction. Under the correct leadership of the CPC, the fraternal Chinese people have successfully overcome the difficulties on the road of advance in recent years. By so doing, they have brought about a new phase for the prosperity and growth of the nation.

In particular, since the 3d plenum of the 11th CPC Central Committee, the unity, cohesion, and stability of the party and people have been achieved and the entire land of China is overflowing with revolutionary spirit. New Progress is being made in the fields of industry, agriculture, science, technology, culture, and national defense, and in all other fields.

At present, the fraternal Chinese people, upholding the decisions of the 12th CPC Congress and the 1st conference of the 6th National People's Congress, are struggling more vigorously in order to achieve socialist modernization and turn China into a socialist power, highly civilized and highly democratic.

The present situation of China, in which unprecedented upsurges are being brought about in socialist revolution and construction, shows that the lines and policies of the CPC are correct and suitable for China's situation, and that the might of the Chinese people, who are implementing them, is endless.

The reunification of the nation through the return of Taiwan to the fatherland is a unanimous desire of the Chinese people, and is an urgent task whose accomplishment cannot be delayed. All the Chinese people are firmly struggling to oppose the schemes for two Chinas which the imperialists and reactionaries are seeking, and to achieve the cause of the fatherland's reunification. The great Chinese people will certainly achieve the cause of the reunification of the nation by smashing the schemes of the splittists and having Taiwan returned to the fatherland.

The might of the PRC is growing and developing and its international position and influence are growing with each passing day.

The Korean people are sincerely rejoicing over the successful revolution and construction of fraternal China, and over the fact that its people are advancing toward a bright future, filled with confidence. They wholeheartedly wish them greater victory in their future struggle.

Our people, in firm unity around the party and the leader, are vigorously struggling to attain ahead of schedule the great long-range goals of socialist economic construction which the Sixth WPK Congress put forth, and to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland by smashing the schemes of domestic and foreign splittists for two Koreas.

The party, government, and people of China are actively supporting and encouraging our people's cause of socialist construction and reunification of the fatherland.

The promotion of the economic and cultural cooperation between Korea and China and the development of the friendly relations between them are an important guarantee for successfully advancing revolution and construction in the two countries, preventing the danger of war, and defending peace and security in Asia.

It is an invariable will of our party and people to make Korean-Chinese friendship -- which was sealed in blood -- bloom more beautifully and for generation after generation.

Along the single road of opposing imperialism and winning victory for the cause of socialism and communism, our people will struggle hand in hand with the fraternal Chinese people. Economic and cultural cooperation between Korea and China will further expand and develop.

Yi Chong-ok Attends Banquet

SK230441 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0357 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Pyongyang November 23 (KCNA) -- A banquet was arranged by the DPRK Government yesterday evening at the People's Palace of Culture on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the conclusion of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China. Present at the banquet were Premier Yi Chong-ok and personages concerned.

Vice-Premier Chong Chun-ki spoke first at the banquet. He noted that 30 years ago the great leader of our people Comrade Kim Il-song visited China and had a significant meeting with the Chinese leaders and signed in person the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the governments of the two countries.

The conclusion of the agreement was an important event in consolidating the traditional friendship and unity between the two peoples into an indestructible one and further promoting the struggle of the two peoples for socialist and communist construction, he said.

He pointed out that in recent years the Chinese people, upholding the decisions of the Third Plenary Meeting of the 11th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and courageously overcoming temporary difficulties lying on the road of their advance, have firmly achieved the stability and unity of the whole country and registered great successes in the endeavours for realising the four modernisations of the country.

Our people heartily wish the fraternal Chinese people greater success in the struggle for building China into a highly civilized and highly democratic socialist power, having Taiwan returned to the homeland and reunifying the whole country, by thoroughly implementing the decisions of the 12th National Congress of the party and the First Session of the Sixth National People's Congress, he stated.

He said: We are satisfied with the fact that the great Korea-China friendship is being consolidated and developed generation after generation thanks to the visit of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to China and the visit of respected Comrades Hu Yaobang and Deng Xiaoping to our country last year and the visit of our people's dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il to China in June this year.

Chinese Ambassador to our country Zong Kewen spoke next.

He said: Over the past 30 years the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation has been successfully implemented thanks to the common efforts of the governments and peoples of our two countries, thereby making great contributions to developing and strengthening the friendship and unity and the friendly and cooperative relations between our two countries and to promoting the economic and cultural development of our two countries.

The friendship between the peoples of China and Korea is a traditional one sealed on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism in the protracted common struggle. The China-Korea friendship personally provided by the great leader of the Chinese people Comrade Mao Zedong and Premier Zhou Enlai and the great leader of the Korean people Comrade Kim Il-song is today developing in all domains.

Saying that the Chinese Government and people resolutely support the just stand of the party and Government of Korea for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and the just proposal for founding the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo, he stressed that the U.S. troops would certainly be made to withdraw from South Korea and the Korean people would achieve the reunification of the country, removing outside interference and all sorts of obstacles without fail.

The attendants of the banquet raised glasses to the everlasting friendship and unity between the Korean and Chinese peoples, to the good health and long life of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, to the good health and long life of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and to the good health and long life of respected Comrades Hu Yaobang, Deng Xiaoping and Li Xiannian.

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings

SK230537 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2229 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Pyongyang November 22 (KCNA) -- The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent a message of greetings on November 22 to Comrade Hu Yaobang, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Comrade Li Xiannian, president of the People's Republic of China, and Comrade Peng Zhen, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the PRC, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the signing of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the DPRK and the PRC.

The message reads: On the occasion of the significant 30th anniversary of the signing of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China, I extend warmest congratulations and greetings to you and to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, the Government of the People's Republic of China and the fraternal Chinese people on behalf of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Korean people and on my own behalf.

The agreement on economic and cultural cooperation signed between Korea and China was the first historical agreement to be signed after the founding of the DPRK and the PRC; it opened a broad avenue for consolidating and developing the traditional Korea-China friendship and expanding and developing in an allround way mutual support and cooperation in the fields of economy and culture.

This agreement has been successfully implemented by the sincere, joint efforts of the parties, governments and peoples of the two countries over the past 30 years and made a notable contribution to the cause of socialist revolution and socialist construction in the two countries.

The Korean people note with deep satisfaction that the great Korea-China friendship sealed with blood in the course of an arduous and protracted struggle against the common enemy and firmly based on class solidarity and fraternity is efflorescing and developing to a high stage from generation to generation and express the conviction that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two parties, two governments and two peoples of Korea and China will display more invincible vitality with each passing day in the spirit of the treaty and agreement existing between the two countries in the future.

I take this opportunity of heartily wishing you and the Chinese people more shining success in the struggle to implement the decisions of the 12th National Congress of the Communist Party of China and build a highly democratic and highly civilized, modern Socialist China.

PRC Message Reported

SK230421 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0331 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Pyongyang November 23 (KCNA) -- The great leader Comrade Kim Il-sung, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Comrade Yi Chong-ok, premier of the Administration Council, received a message of greetings dated November 22 from Comrade Hu Yaobang, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Comrade Li Xiannian, president of the People's Republic of China, Comrade Peng Zhen, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China, and Comrade Zhao Ziyang, premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the conclusion of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and the People's Republic of China. The message reads: On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the conclusion of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between China and Korea, we, on behalf of the Communist Party of China, the government and people of China, extend warmest congratulations to you and, through you, to the Workers' Party of Korea, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people.

The agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between China and Korea concluded 30 years ago played a very important role in promoting economic cooperation and cultural exchange between the two countries.

Rich successes registered in the course of implementing this agreement have strengthened the militant friendship and the great unity forged with blood between the peoples of China and Korea and powerfully accelerated the development of socialist construction in the two countries.

Today the peoples of China and Korea are making efforts to build their countries into prosperous, rich and thriving states.

The Chinese people rejoice over all the successes registered by the fraternal Korean people and sincerely wish you continued victory in the struggle to fulfil the Second Seven-Year Plan and attain the long-range objectives for the 80's and in carrying out the just cause of the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

We firmly believe that the friendly and cooperative relations established on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism on the road of socialist construction between China and Korea will certainly grow stronger and develop and the militant friendship forged between the parties, states and peoples of China and Korea in the protracted revolutionary struggle will be carried forward generation after generation and be everlasting.

Yi Chong-ok Message to Zhao

SK230829 Pyongyang KCNA in English 9814 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Pyongyang November 23 (KCNA) -- Comrade Yi Chong-Ok, premier of the Administration Council, sent a message of greetings to Comrade Zhao Ziyang, premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the conclusion of the agreement of economic and cultural cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China.

The message says that the conclusion of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries opened a broad road to develop cooperation between the two peoples in economic, technical and cultural fields.

Over the past 30 years since the conclusion of the agreement the two peoples have exchanged beneficial experiences with each other and cooperated in the fields of economy, technology and culture along the road of friendship, thereby making great contributions to accelerating socialist construction in the two countries and increasing the might of socialist countries, the message says.

It expresses the belief that the traditional friendship and unity between the peoples of Korea and China which was sealed in blood and has withstood all trials will grow stronger and develop on to a new, higher state generation after generation.

VISIT OF U. S. MILITARY LEADERS TO SOUTH DENOUNCED

Minju Choson Commentary

SK221142 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Pyongyang November 22 (KCNA) -- The commander of the U. S. Imperialist aggression forces in the Pacific flew into Seoul a few days ago to be closeted with the puppet defense minister over "military affairs of common concern."

A signed commentary of MINJU CHOSON today says that this criminal confab in which the commander of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces occupying South Korea and the chief of staff of the puppet navy participated was a war huddle for putting in a more concrete form and bringing into effect the plan for the provocation of a new war which U. S. imperialist warmaniac Reagan had examined and confirmed on the spot during his recent South Korean trip.

The commentary says: The commander of the U. S. imperialist aggression forces in the Pacific turned up in South Korea as soon as Reagan left there and held talks with the puppets in camera in order to supplement the already worked out aggressive plan and war preparations and dovetail them.

The war confab held in South Korea by this top-class war servant of the U.S. imperialists at a time when the South Korean tour of Reagan, the boss of war, and the new war provocation maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists, were under fierce fire at home and abroad is a vicious challenge to the entire Korean people and world peace-loving people aspiring after peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification.

The evermore reckless war moves of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges are driving the tension in Korea to an extreme pitch, creating an acute situation which may touch off a war any moment. We are keenly watching the ill-boding developments following war maniac Reagan's tour.

MINJU CHOSON Raps CINCPAC Visit

SK22155 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0753 GMT 22 Nov 83

[MINJU CHOSON 22 November Commentary: "Criminal War Confab Between Master and Stooge"]

[Text] It is being reported that a few days ago a man in the post of commander in chief of the U.S. imperialist aggressor forces in the Pacific region, who sneaked into Seoul following the South Korean junket by Reagan, the war boss of the U.S. imperialists, held secret talks with the puppet defense minister on so-called military matters of mutual concern.

Participating in the talks were the commander of the U.S. imperialist aggressor forces in South Korea and a man in the post of the puppet chief of naval operations.

This criminal confab held between the U.S. imperialists' war errand boys and the puppets was a war confab aimed at giving more concrete shape to and putting into practice the plan for a new war provocation, the plan which Reagan, the warmonger of the U.S. imperialists, examined and confirmed on-the-spot in South Korea not long ago.

As all of you know, with the wicked aim of provoking a new war in Korea, the U.S. imperialists have openly declared the Korean peninsula as the test site for confrontation of strength in the 1980's and as the area for the U.S. frontline defense. They have been concentrating the aggression forces on a large scale here by reinforcing their occupation forces and the puppet armed forces in South Korea and introducing new weapons.

The U.S. imperialists have already newly built and expanded numerous military bases and deployed some 1,000 nuclear weapons in South Korea. In recent years, they have turned South Korea into the largest war powder magazine and the base for nuclear war in the Far East by newly deploying military equipment, including numerous F-16 fighter-bombers and A-10 close support planes, and by introducing numerous war materiel.

As is widely known: The U.S. imperialists have finished the operational disposition so that they can throw the vast aggressive forces they have concentrated on South Korea and its vicinity at any time for the good of military operations. And they have even mapped out a short-term operational plan aimed at invading the northern half of the republic.

As soon as Reagan went back, the man in the post of commander in chief of the U.S. imperialist aggressor forces in the Pacific region sneaked into South Korea and held secret talks with the puppets. This was aimed at reinforcing and smoothing out the already worked-out aggressive plan and war preparation.

At a time when the voices are exposing and condemning the South Korean junket by Reagan, the war boss, and the U.S. imperialists' schemes for a new war provocation are rising high, another high-ranking war errand boy of the U.S. imperialists sneaked into South Korea and held a war confab. This is a vicious challenge to all Korean people and the world's peace-loving peoples who desire peace and the peaceful reunification of Korea.

Due to the war schemes by the U.S. imperialists and their stooges which are becoming more reckless with each passing day, the tension in Korea has become extremely acute and a strained situation in which no one knows when the fuse of a war might be ignited is being created.

We are keenly watching the uncommon development of the situation in the wake of the junket by Reagan, the warmonger. The U.S. imperialists will pay a dear price if, despite our repeated warnings, they ignite the fuse of a war in Korea by inciting the Chon Tu-hwan ring. The U.S. imperialists and their stooges should look squarely at the reality and act with discretion.

Vessey's Trip Criticized

SK230509 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0444 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Pyongyang, November 23 (KCNA) -- Vessey, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, flew to South Korea on November 20 to be closeted with the Chon Tu-hwan group over the question of putting into a more concrete form Reagan's war plan laid down in the so-called "joint statement" involving the "plan for the modernisation" of the puppet army, the "question of buildup of the combat power" of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces occupying South Korea, "plan for military cooperation," etc.

Hitting at this, NODONG SINMUN Wednesday says in a commentary titled "Servant for Aggression Comes by War Chariot": This was intended to carry into practice the U.S. imperialists' war plan by putting it into a concrete form on the spot and zealously goad the puppets along the road of war adventures.

The puppets' sabre-rattling in entering into a full-fledged stage while Reagan's top-class war servants are coming, one on the heels of the other.

This indicates the madcap campaign of the U.S. imperialists to ignite a new war of aggression in Korea at whatever cost. The frequent war confabs and frantic military exercises staged by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets according to the script of Reagan are rendering the tension on the Korean peninsula more acute and constantly leading the situation to the brink of war. This gravely menaces peace and security in Korea and Asia.

The U.S. imperialists should know that they have nothing to gain from their war gamble and promptly stop their foolish act of encouraging the puppets to war adventures.

VRPR on Vessey's Visit

SK221032 (Clandestine) Voice of the RPR in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] In this hour, I will talk about the war plot hatched by the military leaders from South Korea and the United States.

On 21 November, Chairman of U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Vessey, who came to South Korea on 20 November on a 6-day tour, sat face-to-face with Sennewald, commander-in-chief of the South Korean-U.S. Combined Forces Command, South Korean Defense Minister Yun Song-min, and Chairman of South Korean Joint Chiefs of Staff Yi Ki-paek, hatching a war plot.

At this meeting, the South Korean and U.S. military brass discussed detailed means for such issues as South Korea-U.S. security cooperation as agreed upon at the so-called fifth South Korean-U.S. military committee meeting, in particular the plan to strengthen combat capabilities of U.S. troops stationed in South Korea as discussed during the visit to South Korea by war maniac Reagan, and the plan to assist South Korea in modernizing its Armed Forces.

The war conclave by the South Korean and U.S. military bosses that followed the visit to South Korea by U.S. warmonger Reagan is an extremely dangerous criminal move designed to put into practice the preparations for a war of northward invasion of Reagan who is scheming to provoke a new aggressive war on the Korean peninsula and to accelerate such preparations.

As you all may know, on two occasions of the so-called South Korea-U.S. summit talks and in the South Korea-U.S. joint statement, war maniac Reagan, who visited South Korea for 3 days from 12 to 14 November, reaffirmed that he will further strengthen the security cooperation between South Korea and the United States, that he will improve the combat capabilities of U.S. troops stationed in South Korea, and that he will continue to supply South Korea with weapons systems and technology necessary to improve the combat capabilities of the South Korean Armed Forces.

What is more, war maniac Reagan inspected U.S. military base in the Demilitarized Zone -- the first U.S. president to do so -- checked the status of war preparations on site, and fanned war fever. As a result, a grave situation similar to the time when the war merchant Dulles toured the 38th Parallel and issued directives to provoke the aggressive Korean war some 33 years ago is being created in this land.

In other words, owing to the reckless maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and their stooge Chon Tu-hwan group to prepare for a war that followed the visit to South Korea by war maniac Reagan, the situation on the Korean peninsula has been aggravated further and is on the verge of war.

At a time like this, Chairman of U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Vessey, carrying Reagan's special order, came to South Korea and held a conclave to strengthen the combat capabilities of U.S. troops stationed in South Korea and to assist South Korea in modernizing its Armed Forces, as agreed on in the South Korean-U.S. summit talks and in South-Korean-U.S. joint statement. This shows that Vessey's visit to South Korea is an extremely dangerous war trip, with an aggressive nature.

Finding the stationing of 40,000 U.S. troops and the deployment of some 1,000 nuclear weapons in this land insufficient, bellicose elements such as Reagan and Vessey are scheming to strengthen the combat capabilities of U.S. troops stationed in South Korea and to put into practice the plan to assist South Korea in modernizing its Armed Forces. This once again shows clearly how insanely the U.S. imperialists are running to provoke a new war of aggression, a nuclear war, on the Korean peninsula.

This is a violent challenge to our popular masses who are aspiring for independence and peace and the world's peace-loving people and an intolerable criminal act that destroys and tramples underfoot not only peace on the Korean peninsula, but also peace and security in Asia and in the world.

The U.S. imperialists should squarely look at the trend of the times that moves toward independence and act judiciously, should immediately abandon their reckless maneuvers to provoke a war of aggression, a nuclear war, on the Korean peninsula as unanimously demanded by the popular masses at home and abroad, and withdraw U.S. troops stationed in South Korea, the weapons of mass destruction of all descriptions and military equipment, including nuclear weapons, without delay.

Our popular masses should keenly watch the reckless maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists who are trying to provoke a war of aggression on the Korean peninsula and should continue more vigorously to struggle to frustrate and check such maneuvers.

RPR: Vessey 'Running Amok'

SK230204 (Clandestine) Voice of the RPR in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Dialogue between station announcer and Madame Yun from the feature program "Focus on Topics" -- recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Following the junket to South Korea by warmaniac Reagan, the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring, a group of their stooges, have further accelerated maneuvers to provoke a new war. As a result, tension has heightened daily on the Korean peninsula, and a very dangerous situation has developed there to the extent that a war might break out at any moment. Greatly concerned over a touch-and-go situation on the Korean peninsula which has reached the verge of war, our people and the peace-loving people of the world have raised their voices, opposing and rejecting the maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the bellicose Chon Tu-hwan group, a bunch of their stooges, to make preparations for a war of northward invasion.

During this hour, we will discuss this situation with Madame Yun of this broadcasting station.

How are you? Following the junket to South Korea by warmaniac Reagan, the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring, a group of their stooges, have further stepped up their maneuvers to provoke a new war. Such being the situation, U.S. military bosses have frequently visited South Korea and held conferences with their South Korean counterparts. Would you explain their unusual movements.

[Madame Yun] As is well known, arriving in South Korea on 20 November on a scheduled 6-day visit, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff John Vessey met Chairman of the South Korean Joint Chiefs of Staff Yi Ki-paek and held talks with him and Sennewald, commander of the South Korean-U.S. Combined Forces Command. They discussed the question of cooperation between South Korea and the United States in the security sector -- an issue agreed on at the fifth meeting of the South Korea-U.S. Military Committee. In particular, they discussed detailed plans for aiding efforts to modernize the South Korean Armed Forces and to increase the military capability of the U.S. forces in South Korea, clarified in the joint statement issued at the time of Reagan's junket. Vessey met Defense Minister Yun Song-min and held an aggressive conference with him to discuss the question of increasing military cooperation between South Korea and the United States.

Prior to this, on 17 November, U.S. Commander in Chief Pacific Crowe held secret talks with Yun Song-min and heinously schemed to accelerate war preparations.

At a time when U.S. military bosses frequently visited South Korea and held military conferences with their South Korean counterparts, the Chon Tu-hwan group, instigated by the United States, recklessly and more brazenly stepped up its maneuvers for war preparations over a period of time.

On 20 November, an army eagle unit launched a 6-day winter exercise by a homeland defense reservist unit to complete a real war-type mobilization system. In addition to this, the Chon Tu-hwan group has kicked up very reckless war exercise rackets daily by air force and army units, such as night firing and (?position) defense exercises resembling real wars and simulating an attack on North Korea.

[Announcer] In the context of a series of situations which exist today on the Korean peninsula, the junket to South Korea by U.S. warmaniac Reagan was a very dangerous war junket designed to start a new aggressive war on the Korean peninsula?

[Madame Yun] That is right. As is well known, no sooner had warmaniac Reagan arrived in South Korea than he made bellicose, absurd remarks by speaking at the National Assembly and by holding summit talks. While inspecting U.S. and White Horse units in the DMZ, he checked the status of war preparations on the spot and fanned war zeal. In a joint statement, Reagan vowed to increase the military capability of the U.S. forces in South Korean Armed Forces. As has been shown by the entire course of Reagan's junket to South Korea, his remarks showed that his visit to South Korea was a criminal war junket designed to provoke a new aggressive war on the Korean peninsula.

Arriving in South Korea on a special mission for Reagan, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Vessey discussed detailed plans for the modernization of the South Korean Armed Forces and for the increase of the military capability of the U.S. forces in South Korea -- matters which had been covered in the joint statement.

This shows that Reagan's visit to South Korea was a war junket and Vessey frantically ran amok to execute a war plan formulated by the U.S. war maniacs. Following Reagan's junket to South Korea, the top warmongers, U.S. military bosses including chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Vessey, and U.S. Commander in Chief Pacific Crowe, have crawled into South Korea one after another, held war conferences with the Chon Tu-hwan group, and inspected the frontline, showing unusual movements. This shows that the reckless attempt of the U.S. imperialists to start a new aggressive war on the Korean peninsula has become more brazen with the passage of time.

[Announcer] Reagan is the most bellicose war believer among all previous U.S. presidents.

[Madame Yun] That is right. Because of this, no sooner had war maniac Reagan put on the presidential crown, than he greatly increased defense expenditures and continuously engaged in aggressive war maneuvers everywhere in the world. In particular, the Reagan regime has been hellbent on maneuvers to start a new, aggressive war on the Korean peninsula by attaching great significance to its Far East strategy. Designating the Korean peninsula as a test ground for confrontation of strength in the 1980's and as a nuclear bridgehead, and not satisfied with the deployment of 1,000 nuclear weapons in this region, it is even trying to deploy cruise missiles and neutron bombs there. With a heinous plot for turning South Korea into a lasting colony and a military base and for holding on to all of the Korean peninsula, the U.S. imperialists have continuously shipped various weapons and military hardware -- including sophisticated fighter bombers, tanks, and armored cars -- to South Korea and have kicked up war exercise rackets aimed at war of northward invasion. Because of the frequent visits to South Korea by U.S. military bosses prior to and after Reagan's junket to South Korean counterparts, and because of the reckless maneuvers of the Chon Tu-hwan group to make war preparations, tension has heightened on the Korean peninsula with the passage of time, and a touch-and-go situation has developed to the verge of war -- a very dangerous phase.

[Announcer] That is right. Why have U.S. military bosses visited South Korea one after another, held war conferences with their South Korean counterparts, and instigated the Chon Tu-hwan group to kick up war exercise rackets aimed at a war of northward invasion? What are the motives and aims of this attempt?

[Madame Yun] No doubt, the heinous aim of this attempt is to turn all of the Korean peninsula into a colonial, military base by starting a new, aggressive war in this land. Another aim is to strangle the anti-U.S., antigovernment spirit, which has increased among the people with the passage of time, by creating an atmosphere of panic by frantically kicking up war rackets and by diverting the attention of the people so as to maintain colonial rule. Seeking these aims, the U.S. imperialists have further increased military aid to the Chon Tu-hwan group and have instigated it to recklessly maneuver for a war of northward invasion, to fan the sentiment of North-South confrontation and enmity against North Korea, and to follow the anticommunists and anti-North course. This is a brazen challenge to our people who demand independence, democracy, and peaceful reunification and is an intolerable crime. Our people, who experienced disasters in the Korean war which the U.S. imperialists provoked 33 years ago, should steadily struggle to check and thwart the heinous maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists to provoke a war.

[Announcer] The peace-loving people of the world as well as our people strongly oppose and reject the reckless war preparation maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan group, a bunch of their stooges, to start a nuclear war, a new aggressive war, on the Korean peninsula. The more eagerly the U.S. imperialists increase military aid to the Chon Tu-hwan group and instigate it to maneuver to make preparations for a new war, the more they will clearly reveal themselves as the basic obstacles to peace and the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula.

[Madame Yun] That is right. All facts show that the U.S. imperialists are atrocious aggressors and the ringleaders hindering peace and peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula. Our people, who were deceived on many occasions, will never be deceived by any cunning tricks of the U.S. imperialists whatsoever. They should resolutely struggle to end U.S. colonial rule, to overthrow the Chon Tu-hwan dictatorial regime, and to smash the reckless maneuvers to provoke a new war.

[Announcer] That is right. The U.S. imperialists should immediately stop the reckless maneuvers to start a new, aggressive war on the Korean peninsula and their military aid to the Chon Tu-hwan group in accordance with the concordant demand of the people at home and abroad, should withdraw U.S. forces from South Korea, and should take back without delay nuclear and various lethal weapons which they have shipped to this land.

Our people will eagerly watch the reckless maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan group, a bunch of their stooges, for a war of northward invasion and will move vigorously struggle to check and thwart these maneuvers. They should continuously wage a fierce anti-U.S., nation-saving struggle to achieve peace and the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula. Now, it is time to close. Thank you.

WINTER WAR EXERCISED IN SOUTH CRITICIZED

SK230424 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0342 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Pyongyang November 23 (KCNA) -- The South Korean military blackguards started on November 21 a war exercise called winter "joint exercise" of the puppet army and the "Homeland Defence Reserve Force" in various areas to incite a war fever, crying that they should "be in full readiness for real war mobilization system."

This is part of the puppet's frantic new war provocation manoeuvres following the South Korean trip of Reagan, the warlike boss of U.S. imperialism.

The military blackguards, acting on the script written by the U.S. imperialists for war of aggression, are staging one war exercise after another in all parts of South Korea, such as "surprise mobilization exercise" of the puppet army and "Homeland Defence Reserve Force", "aerial and ground exercises", "naval firing exercise" and "civilian defence training" of inhabitants.

U.S. FOREIGN AID BILL PROMOTES 'SUBJUGATION'

SK221246 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2251 GMT 21 Nov 83

[NODONG SINMUN 22 Nov commentary: "The Noose of Subjugation"]

[Text] According to reports, the U.S. Congress recently passed a foreign aid bill of 411.5 billion. [as heard] It is well known that the U.S. imperialists' foreign aid is one means for them to implement their foreign policy of aggression and a noose to subjugate other countries.

That was shown clearly in the foreign aid bill, too. In the foreign aid bill, the U.S. imperialists said that they will not give aid to those countries who, in the UN forum or other international conferences, do not act like they are tuned to the U.S. policy, or oppose them. In other words, it means that they will only give aid to those countries who act as their agents. That is what they disclosed themselves about the nature of aggression of their aid.

In fact, most aid in the bill was earmarked for their stooges, the guides for their aggression overseas, including Israel, South Korea and El Salvador. The U.S. imperialists promised to give much of the aid to Israel. As is known, the U.S. imperialists designated the oil-rich Middle East region as an area of vital interest, and are driving the Israeli aggressors as a shock brigade in dominating and controlling the countries in the region.

The Israeli Zionists were able to trigger war in the Middle East several times because they have been buttressed and supported by the U.S. imperialists. The Israeli aggressors, who last year occupied southern Lebanon, not only did not withdraw from there, but, taking it as a foothold, are accelerating the preparations for invading the neighboring Arab countries, including Syria. But then, this time again, the U.S. imperialists decided to give much aid to Israel -- which is nothing more than a criminal act of giving a robber more murderous weapons.

By having Israel occupy more Arab land and dominate and control Arab countries, the U.S. imperialists are trying to implement their wild desire for aggression more easily. The U.S. imperialists promised to give much aid to the South Korean puppets, too. The U.S. imperialists, who some time ago overthrew the legitimate Grenada Government with bayonets and now sit astride it, promised to give it aid of about \$3.5 million well in advance of the establishment of their puppet government in that country. Before the overthrow of the legitimate regime in Grenada, the U.S. imperialists not only did not give that country one cent of aid, but even frustrated the giving of loans to that country by international financial organizations and individual banks.

As such, the U.S. imperialists are utilizing their foreign aid for bringing many countries under their domination and control and for implementing their wild desire for world domination. The wicked knife of aggression is concealed in the U.S. imperialists' aid.

KCNA NOTES PRC PAPER'S COMMENTS ON REAGAN VISIT

SK221107 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1000 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Pyongyang November 22 (KCNA) -- The Chinese paper WORKERS' DAILY November 17 carried a commentary titled "Reagan's Asian Tour."

The commentary said: The world public opinion considers that the recent trip of Reagan showed that the United States attaches importance to Northeast Asia and the Pacific area and seeks to strengthen relations with this region.

Referring to Reagan's visit to Japan, the commentary said that in their talks Reagan and the Japanese Prime minister stressed the need to form "relationship of companions" and strengthen cooperation between the United States and Japan and Reagan reaffirmed the "importance of the unity of the U.S.-Japan alliance and Western Community" and ranted that Japan should play her role in Asia.

The commentary also pointed out that in South Korea Reagan held confabs with Chon Tu-hwan, issued a "joint statement" with him and blared that the United States and South Korea "should further strengthen cooperative relations."

It said that Reagan strutted about in the Demilitarized Zone of the military demarcation line area, hurled malicious slanders before the American soldiers upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and brandished armed forces to give a shot in the arm to the South Korean puppets.

It is as clear as noonday that the acts of Reagan in South Korea heightened tensions on the Korean peninsula and created obstacles in the way of Korea's peaceful reunification, remarked the commentary.

CORRECTIONS TO RPR 15 NOV STATEMENT ON REAGAN VISIT

Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean at 2200 GMT on 17 November broadcasts the text of the statement issued by the RPR denouncing the visit of President Reagan to the ROK, which has been compared with VRPR version, headlined "Further Reaction to Reagan's Far East Tour" and subtitled "RPR Central Committee Statement, published in the 17 November DAILY REPORT on page D 1, allowing for the following clarifications:

The last paragraph, penultimate line from end of line three should read: ...way through a thorny path full of...(clearing queried word)

Page D 2, paragraph three, line four should read: ...though they suffered medieval pains under the whipping...(rewording per recheck)

Same page, paragraph five, line five should read: ...abroad, his visit could not escape our masses' resistance. But Reagan committed...(clearing queried words)

Page D 3, paragraph two, line five should read: ...babbled about the drastic reinforcement of the...(correcting queried word)

Same paragraph, line six should read: ...reflection of his buoyant aggressive ambition, aimed...(clearing queried word)

Same page, final paragraph, from penultimate line, should read: ...pro-U.S. traitor who was brought up in the bosom of the U.S. imperialists and is maintaining his dirty life therein. (changing 'has' to 'was', providing words indistinct).

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON REACTION TO CHONGNYON RAID

Former SJP Head's Visit

SK230847 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0821 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Tokyo November 21 (KNS-KCNA) -- A Ichio Asukata, former chairman of the Japan Socialist Party, on November 19 paid a call of sympathy at the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) in connection with the incident of firing revolvers at the Central headquarters of Chongnyon.

He was met by Yi Chin-kyu, first vice-chairman, and Yi Kye-paek, vice-chairman, of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon.

Saying that he could hardly repress surprise at the frantic incident, Ichio Asukata called for struggle with heightened vigilance because the incident is connected with a series of tensions including Reagan's South Korean tour.

First Vice-Chairman Yi Chin-kyu expressed thanks for this and stated that Chongnyon functionaries and Koreans in Japan would undauntedly fight, keeping heightened vigilance and strengthening unity.

Now noted personnel of various circles of Japan visit the central hall of Chongnyon in connection with the incident to encourage Chongnyon functionaries and also continuously send encouraging telephones and telegrams.

Severe Punishment Urged

SK230453 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Tokyo November 22 (KNS-KCNA) -- Representatives of the group for investigation of the revolver firing at the Central Headquarters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and Chongnyon Center went to Kojimachi, Tokyo, police station on November 19 and demanded a thorough investigation of the incident.

Lawyer Shigeru Tokoi, member of the group for investigation of the incident, and other representatives said that in the recent raid the revolver-firing at the inquiry room was patently an attempt at murder and the revolver-firing at the main building of the hall was also a similar attempt.

They pointed out that the raid, a grave challenge to the Korean people and Chongnyon, is not only a grave criminal act to negate democracy by violence but also a premeditated and organised crime.

Then they strongly demanded the police authorities to severely punish the criminals, investigate the background of the crime and take thorough measures to prevent the recurrence of such incident.

They submitted a letter of request to the superintendent general of the Metropolitan Police.

The group for investigation of the incident held a press conference at the office room of lawyer Shigeru Tokoi and made public the truth of the incident, its character and background.

Chongnyon Criminals Arrested

SK230430 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0345 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Pyongyang November 23 (KCNA) -- Criminals who fired revolvers at random on November 18 at the Central Hall of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) were arrested on November 21 by the Japanese police according to a report.

They are Hideyoshi Yonesato (29) and Yi Chong-sik (31) who are associated with the "Yamakuchikumi" terrorists' group, right-wing reactionary organisation of Japan.

Two revolvers which the criminals had concealed were confiscated. The motive of the crime and its background are under investigation, according to a report.

Meetings Condemn Raid

SK231031 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Tokyo November 22 (KNS-KCNA) -- Meetings condemning the raid on the Central Hall of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) were held on November 18 and 19 at Chongnyon organisations in all parts of Japan. An emergency meeting was held on November 10 at the Santama Central District Chapter of Chongnyon. It was addressed by the chairman of the Santama Prefectural Headquarters of Chongnyon.

Exposing the truth of the incident, he stressed that all Chongnyon functionaries and compatriots should powerfully launch internal and external political propaganda to smash the anti-DPRK, anti-Chongnyon schemes of the domestic and foreign reactionaries. Open indignation speeches were made by Chongnyon functionaries.

The meeting adopted a letter of protest to the Japanese Government. The letter strongly demanded the Japanese authorities to give up the unreasonable hostile policy towards the DPRK and severely punish criminals involved in the incident and, at the same time, thoroughly probe its background and take appropriate measures lest similar incidents should occur again.

On the same day meetings were held at the Kyoto prefectural headquarters of the League of Korean Youth in Japan, Choson University and Korean middle and high schools. On November 18 meetings were held at all Chongnyon chapters and branches in Tokyo.

MEETING COMMEMORATES YUGOSLAV NATIONAL DAY

SK230503 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0435 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Pyongyang November 23 (KCNA) -- A meeting celebrating the 40th anniversary of Day of the Republic, the national day of the Yugoslav people, was held on November 22 in Korea-Yugoslavia Friendship Sinchon County.

Speaking at the meeting, Yi Sun-paek, chairman of the Sinchon County, South Hwanghae Province, People's Committee, said: A decision on building a new Yugoslavia was adopted at the second meeting of the anti-fascist People's Liberation Council of Yugoslavia held under the guidance of Comrade Tito on November 29, 1943. This was a historic event proclaiming the birth of a new Yugoslavia, a democratic federal state.

Noting that today the Yugoslav people are energetically striving to defend the sovereignty of the country and develop the socialist self-management, thoroughly maintaining unity and harmony of peoples and nationalities of the country with a firm determination to carry forward the cause of their leader Comrade Josip Broz Tito and unswervingly advance along the road of the Yugoslav revolution carved out by him, the speaker said: Our people wish the fraternal Yugoslav people new success in their struggle.

He declared: We will advance, in the future, too, firmly joining hands with the Yugoslav people, class brother and comrade-in-arms, on the road of struggle to realise the cause of making the whole world independent under the banner of Chajusong (independence) and the banner of Non-Aligned Movement.

Yugoslav Ambassador to our country Ljupco Tavciovski spoke next.

He said that the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are closely cooperating with each other in the Non-Aligned Movement and making great contributions to adhering to the fundamental principle of the movement and strengthening its unity and cohesion.

The Korean people, he said, are achieving great successes in all fields of socialist construction by applying the philosophical principle of the Chuche idea.

He noted that in the celebrations of the 35th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea he saw the Korean people's unified strength firmly rallied around the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and their loyalty to the leaders and clearly realized that Korea enjoys high prestige in the international arena and has a large number of friends in the world.

He declared that the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and the government and people of Yugoslavia will, as in the past, so in the future, too, fully support the Korean people's struggle for national reunification.

He concluded his speech by shouting the following slogans: Long live respected Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of the Korean people!

Long ~~live the~~ dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il!

PAPERS NOTE LEBANESE INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY

SK221200 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Pyongyang November 22 (KCNA) -- Dailies here today dedicate articles to the 40th anniversary of the independence of Lebanon. Noting that the Lebanese people are greeting their independence day in a grim struggle against the imperialists and Israeli aggressors, the signed article of NODONG SINMUN says: In June last year the Israeli aggressors committed an armed invasion of Lebanon and dyed her soil with the blood of the Lebanese people, and they are still playing the master in southern Lebanon.

The imperialists who made their way into Lebanon under the cloak of "maintenance of peace" are only rendering the situation complex in Lebanon.

On the other hand, they have massed a huge aggression forces including an aircraft carrier in the sea off Lebanon for a large-scale armed intervention. The Israeli aggressors also are reinforcing their Armed Forces in Lebanon.

For an early, fair solution of the Lebanese problem the Israeli aggressors should be withdrawn from Lebanon and the imperialists and the Zionists should take their hands off interference off Lebanon.

Our people strongly demand an immediate withdrawal of the Israeli aggressors from Lebanon they are occupying and express firm solidarity with the Lebanese people in the struggle for the independent development of the country and for peace and stability.

Our people will continue to make strenuous efforts to develop friendly and cooperative relations with the Lebanese people. The Korean people wholeheartedly wish the Lebanese people successes in their struggle for defending the sovereignty of the country against the Israeli aggressors and building a new life.

A signed article of MINJU CHOSON says: The Korean people will as ever support the struggle of the Lebanese people for the independent development of the country and for peace and stability and make every possible effort to strengthen the bonds of friendship with them.

EGYPTIAN PAPER CARRIES KIM CHONG-IL TREATIES

SK221128 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Pyongyang November 22 (KCNA) -- The Egyptian paper ARAB YOUTH October 31 carried a detailed gist of "The Workers' Party of Korea Is a Chuche-Type Revolutionary Party Which Inherited the Glorious Tradition of the Diu", a treaties of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The paper said in the preface: The rapid progress made in all fields of Korea strikes the world people with admiration.

What is important in Korea's experience is that the Korean people rose with a firm determination and resolve though everything was razed to the ground by the war and built an independent national economy, powerful national defence industry and blooming national culture, believing in their strength and mobilising and utilising to the maximum the resources and potentialities of their country.

Particularly important here is the Korean people's steel-like unity and cohesion.

The great leader of the Korean people President Kim Il-song always trusts people, discusses all matters with them to find a way for their solution, and people wholly entrust their all to the leader and devotedly do their work for the prosperity and reunification of the country.

President Kim Il-song's revolutionary cause of chuche is brilliantly carried forward by his excellency Kim Chong-il, the dear leader of the Workers' Party of Korea, and the Korean people.

All the amazing achievements of Korea in recent years are a result of the outstanding ideological and theoretical activities of his excellency Kim Chong-il and his tireless energetic guidance to various fields.

LESOTHO PARLIAMENTARY SPEAKER VISITS DPRK

Talks With Yang Hyong-sop

SK220540 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2227 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Pyongyang November 22 (KCNA) -- Talks were held in Pyongyang on November 22 between Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, and John Teboho Kolane, speaker of the Parliament of the Kingdom of Lesotho. The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Lesotho Speaker's Sojourn

SK230443 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0409 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Pyongyang November 23 (KCNA) -- His Excellency John Teboho Kolane, speaker of the Parliament of the Kingdom of Lesotho, who is on a visit to our country went to Mangyongdae on November 22. The guest was accompanied by Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly.

The guest went round mementoes at the native house of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in Mangyongdae, hearing about his revolutionary history and his revolutionary family, and posed for a photograph before the native house. Then he inspected the Mangyongdae fun fair and Pyongyang Metro. In the evening the guest appreciated the revolutionary opera "Sea of Blood."

KIM IL-SONG GREETES GUINEA'S SEKOU TOURE

SK230456 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0414 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Pyongyang November 23 (KCNA) -- The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, sent a message of greetings on November 22 to Ahmed Sekou Toure upon his reelection as general secretary of the Democratic Party of Guinea at the 12th Congress of the Party.

The message reads: On behalf of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Korean people and on my own, I extend warmest congratulations to you upon your reelection as general secretary of the Democratic Party of Guinea at the 12th congress of our party.

Your reelection as general secretary of the party is a deep trust in you of the entire members of your party and your people and an expression of the firm desire of the entire Guinean people to build a new Guinea, independent and prosperous, along the road of socialism under the leadership of the Democratic Party of Guinea headed by you.

Believing that the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation existing between our two parties and two peoples will grow stronger and develop in the future, I take this opportunity to sincerely wish you greater success in your noble work of leading the Guinean revolution.

PRESIDENT CHON CONFERS MEDAL ON GENERAL VESSEY

SK230405 Seoul YONHAP in English 0242 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 23 (YONHAP) -- President Chon Tu-hwan Wednesday received Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen John W. Vessey Jr. at the presidential mansion Chongwadae. Before having a luncheon with the visiting general, Chon decorated Vessey with the Order of Defense Service Merit, the Tongil Medal. Defense Minister Yun Song-min, U.S. Ambassador to Seoul Richard L. Walker and Gen Robert W. Sennewald, commander of the Korea-U.S. Combined Forces Command, were present at the ceremony.

Earlier Wednesday Chon met with Australian Minister for Science and Technology Barry Jones. Science-Technology Minister Yi Chong-o and Australian Ambassador to Seoul Edward R. Pocock were also on hand. Jones came to Seoul Tuesday at the invitation of his Korean counterpart Yi for a five-day visit.

REPORTAGE ON VISIT BY PAKISTANI PLANNING MINISTER

Arrives 22 Nov

SK230148 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 23 Nov 83 p 1

[Excerpts] Pakistani Minister of Planning and Development Mahbubul Haq yesterday flew into Seoul for a five-day visit at the invitation of Deputy Prime Minister Sin Pyong-hyon. He is the first Pakistani minister to visit the country. His visit to Korea came two weeks after Seoul and Islamabad established diplomatic ties on Nov. 7. The Pakistani minister is leading a five-member economic mission which will have two rounds of talks with the Korean delegation during their stay in Korea.

The members of the Pakistani mission, in addition to Mahbubul Haq, are: Izharul Haque, secretary of commerce; Abdul Jamil Nishtar, chairman of the Agricultural Development Bank of Pakistan; M.S. Jilani, additional secretary of planning and development; and Amir Ali Shah, director general for East Asia and the Pacific, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Two hours after the arrival of the Pakistani mission in Seoul, Deputy Prime Minister Sin hosted a dinner party for the visiting Pakistani minister of development and planning at the Hilton Hotel.

Receives Medal

SK230803 Seoul YONHAP in English 0736 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Seoul, Nov. 23 (YONHAP) -- Pakistani Planning and Development Minister Mahbubul Haq Wednesday was awarded South Korea's Order of Diplomatic Service Merit, the Kwanghwa Medal. He was honored in a brief ceremony at the presidential mansion, Chongwadae, where President Chon Tu-hwan bestowed the decoration to him. Deputy Prime Minister and Economic Planning Minister Sin Pyong-hyon and Pakistani Ambassador Javed Masud were also present.

Joint Meeting Held

SK230817 Seoul YONHAP in English 0748 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 23 (YONHAP) -- South Korea and Pakistan Wednesday held their first economic meeting at the Economic Planning Board office in Seoul to discuss promoting economic and trade relations. Planning and Development Minister Mahbubul Haq, who flew into Seoul Tuesday for a five-day visit at the invitation of his South Korean counterpart, Sin Pyong-hyon, led the five-member Pakistani delegation.

During the meeting, the Pakistani delegates said they hope to learn from Korea's experience in economic growth and the Saemaul (new community) development movement, a source at the Economic Planning Board said. The two sides also discussed Korea's possible participation in Pakistani development projects, technical exchanges, and expanded trade between the two countries, the source said.

The meeting was held just two weeks after the countries established full diplomatic ties on Nov. 7. The Pakistani mission, here until Friday, will meet with the Korean delegation again to further discuss how to promote bilateral economic cooperation and trade.

MALDIVES FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS YI WON-KYONG

SK210249 Seoul YONHAP in English 0230 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 21 (YONHAP) -- Foreign Minister Fathulla Jameel of the Maldives Monday conferred with his South Korean counterpart Yi Won-kyong and pledged his country's support for Seoul's position on the Korean question, a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said. Jameel arrived here Saturday on a six-day official visit.

Yi explained to Jameel the security situation on the Korean peninsula in the wake of the Oct. 9 North Korean bombing attack on a South Korean presidential delegation in Rangoon, and called for the Indian Ocean nation to support Seoul's position in international organizations, the spokesman said. Burma officially held North Korean agents responsible for the bombing which killed 17 South Koreans, including four Cabinet ministers.

The two ministers agreed to step up bilateral political and economic cooperation, he said. The Maldives, comprising 2,000 islands southwest of India, has diplomatic relations with both North and South Korea.

LIBERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 23 NOVEMBER

SK230745 Seoul YONHAP in English 0734 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 23 (YONHAP) -- Liberia's Foreign Minister Ernest Eastman arrived in Seoul Wednesday afternoon for a four-day official visit at the invitation of his South Korean counterpart Yi Won-kyong. While here, Eastman will pay a courtesy call on President Chon Tu-hwan and hold talks with Yi to discuss matters of mutual concern, including the political situation on the Korean peninsula. Eastman is accompanied by his wife and William Bull, assistant foreign minister for African and Asian affairs.

CHON HONORS FORMER W. GERMAN PRESIDENT SCHEEL

SK210258 Seoul YONHAP in English 0238 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 21 (YONHAP) -- President Chon Tu-hwan Monday decorated former West German President Walter Scheel with the Order of Diplomatic Service Merit, the Grand Kwanghwa Medal. Scheel was honored in a brief ceremony at the presidential mansion, Chongwadae. President Chon also awarded West German Chairman of the Korea-Germany Centennial Committee Heinz Schwarz the Order of Diplomatic Service Merit, the Kwanghwa medal. Foreign Minister Yi Won-kyong, Government Administration Minister Pak Chan-kung, South Korean Chairman of the Korea-Germany Centennial Committee Ku Cha-hak and West German Ambassador Wolfgang Eger also were present.

Scheel and his five-member party flew into Seoul Saturday for a four-day visit to commemorate the centennial of Korean-German diplomatic relations. While in Korea, Scheel will meet with Korean Government and business leaders to discuss the expansion of mutual cultural and economic exchange between the two countries. His itinerary includes a tour of industrial complexes in southern Korea and the truce village of Panmunjom in the Demilitarized Zone dividing South and North Korea.

KIM CHONG-IL SAID TO BE REMOVED FROM 'LIMELIGHT'

SK230133 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 23 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Tokyo (YONHAP) -- Kim Chong-il, son of North Korean leader Kim Il-song, appears to have been forced out of the political limelight as international condemnation of the Pyongyang regime for the Rangoon incident mounts.

The TONGIL ILBO, a pro-Seoul daily here, reported Tuesday that Kim Il-song is facing stiff international and domestic pressure to punish his son for masterminding the terrorist attack in the Burmese capital last month. Quoting sources well-informed on North Korean affairs, the newspaper said Kim Il-song had intended to conclude the incident by purging People's Armed Forces Minister O Chin-u but that he now has no other choice but to punish his son.

It said the present situation is similar to the case that resulted in the purging Ho Pong-hak, former director general for Pyongyang's espionage activities in the south, who was held responsible for the abortive attack on the presidential mansion of Chonwadae in 1968.

EWHA STUDENTS ARRESTED FOR DEMONSTRATION

SK230122 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 23 Nov 83 p 8

[Text] Police yesterday arrested two Ewha Women's University students on charges of violating the law on illegal assembly and demonstrations. Investigators at the Sodaemun Police Station said Kim Sun-chu and Kim Cha-hyon, both 22, were charged with distributing more than 100 leaflets containing antigovernment slogans and instigating other students to demonstrate on their campus around noon last Thursday.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER: 'NO PLAN' TO IMPORT RICE

SK230142 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 23 Nov 83 p 1

[Excerpt] The government has no plan to purchase rice from overseas, especially the United States, next year because of growing rice stockpiles, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries Pak Chong-mun said yesterday. In reply to a question at the National Assembly Agriculture-Fisheries Committee, he said that the staple in reserve will reach a whopping 19 million sok at the end of this year. (One sok equals 144 kg.)

He stressed that the nation is not yet self-reliant in the supply of rice despite the good harvest this autumn which was initially tallied at 37.5 million sok. Saying that the nation tends to experience bad rice harvests every three or four years, he stressed, "We need to expand the production base." But, he said, the government has no plan to procure rice from overseas next year.

The nation has spent about \$1.4 billion to import a total of 3 million tons of rice from overseas for the past three years since 1980, according to official figures.

MINISTERS DISCUSS GASOLINE TAX, IMPORTS POLICY

SK230143 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 23 Nov 83 pp 1, 2

[Text] The special excise tax on gasoline would gradually be lowered to cut gasoline prices. Minister of Energy and Resources Choe Tong-kyu told a National Assembly panel yesterday that it is difficult for the government to slash the excise tax by a large margin at one time. However, he said, the government is planning to lower the tax on a gradual basis to cut gasoline prices which are said to be most expensive in the world. A 100 percent excise tax is now imposed on gasoline.

It is not clear whether the ministry will soon lower the tax or that it simply reiterated its long-standing position that the special gasoline tax should be lowered. A decrease in the excise tax requires National Assembly approval.

Minister Choe added his ministry will force all taxis operating in the country to use low-cost liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) as their fuel until the end of next year to help control the consumption of gasoline. He said his ministry intends to seek negotiations with the United States to discuss the possibility of purchasing Alaskan oil. The importation of Alaskan oil is desirable in the view of the efforts to diversify the sources of oil imports and reduce shipping costs, he said.

The domestic supply of low-sulfur gasoline will be raised to 100 percent by 1986 from the present 10 percent to keep air from being further contaminated, he said.

On possible shortages of oil imports, he testified that the government will tighten the control on oil consumption in case oil imports fall by 20 percent. Oil rationing will be inevitable if the oil imports fall by 30 percent or more, he said. Should there be a 20 percent cut in oil imports, he said, the oil supply to the military will not be disturbed. But, he said, a blow to industries is in sight. Light oil used by homes will be rationed in such an emergency, he disclosed.

At the Finance Committee, lawmakers took issue with the government plan to lower tariffs on the importation of overseas industrial goods. Rep. Chong Chong-taek of the ruling Democratic Justice Party demanded that the government withdraw the plan to lower customs duties on foreign-made luxury items from 50 percent to 40 percent. He described the plan as "unreasonable."

In reply, Finance Minister Kim Man-che said it may be difficult for the nation to increase tariffs on imports because doing so would invite a flurry of protests from foreign countries. The government intends to reinforce the current "flexible" tariff system, he added.

Minister Kim, meanwhile, said the government is now negotiating with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) to levy custom duties on the importation of noncommercial airplanes. Under an agreement, the Korean Government signed with the GATT, he said, imports of noncommercial jets are exempted from tariffs. He disclosed that the government will continue to exempt the importation of jetliners for commercial use from custom duties under the accord.

KOREA HERALD REVIEWS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

SK230116 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 23 Nov 83 p 4

[Text] As in the past, a wide range of issues in all fields, political, social, economic, and cultural, has been dissected during the current parliament, session. The legislative activities, according to political observers, have been somewhat "constructive," shedding light on planned changes in some major government policies.

One of the "harvests," they said, was the revelation of the tally of heavy bank loans to business conglomerates. Documents presented to the National Assembly by the Finance Ministry showed that as much as 35.2 percent of the total bank loans outstanding have been extended to 100 large business concerns.

Other valuable data which had been kept secret had also been made public. Debts of individual companies have also been revealed for the first time. Lawmakers' questions also revealed that the government intends to collect the special defense tax beyond the original target year of 1985.

It is not clear, however, whether the administration will extend the collection of the special education tax beyond 1986. To the astonishment of many taxpayers, a great portion of the tax has been used for "noneducational" fields such as salaries of local government officials.

Panel meetings were often extended well into the night. For instance, the Budget and Settlement Committee, which was called into session at 2 p.m. Saturday wound up its debate at around 5:40 a.m. the following day. Much of the debate concerned the Hyundai Engineering and Construction Co. It has been under heavy pressure from opposition lawmakers to go public by listing their stocks on the Korea Stock Exchange.

A consensus among political observers is that activities of the one-house chamber have been "revitalized." Nonetheless, they pointed out that a great number of lawmakers still cling to the habit of making boring speeches apparently aimed at their constituencies.

The short-lived, week-long preliminary deliberations on the fiscal 1984 government budget plan by standing committees have been "skin-deep," without any substantial debates taking place. In other words, members of the National Assembly failed to make full use of the right to study budget proposals of government agencies during the committee meetings. The power was restored under the newly amended National Assembly Law.

Following are some of the major issues which had been extensively debated during the full-dress Assembly or panel meetings:

The political ban on former public figures: A "careful study" was undertaken on the possibility of lifting the current political restraints on former politicians and others from the viewpoint of national reconciliation, according to Premier Chin I-chong and Deputy Premier Sin Pyong-hyon.

In answering questions at a full-dress National Assembly session late last August, Premier Chin said: "To my understanding, a careful study is now under way on the possibility of granting appropriate leniency to them." He added he will do his share to enable those political outcasts who number 300 or so to join nation-building efforts.

Deputy Premier-Economic Planning Minister Sin gave a similar answer in response to the demand for an early lifting of the ban on Nov. 18.

On a call for amending various election laws: The prime minister made it clear that the administration remains firmly opposed to any plan to revise election laws, in particular the Presidential Election Law under which the chief executive is elected indirectly. The reason is that the sought-after legal change would necessitate a modification of the Constitution and thus might destabilize the domestic political atmosphere.

On U.S. President Ronald Reagan's Korean visit: Minister of Foreign Affairs Yi Won-kyong termed the results of the Korea-U.S. summit talks as "fruitful" in response to allegations by some ruling and opposition party lawmakers that the nation has gained "little" over what it had expected. The minister noted that in the joint statement issued after the summit talks, Washington pledged to maintain American forces in Korea and to strengthen their capabilities.

One of the critics was Rep. Yi Man-op, a vice president of the opposition Korea National Party. Kim Hyon-uk of the ruling Democratic Justice Party demanded that the administration resist U.S. "pressure" to expand the list of farm imports, pointing out that Korea is already a large market for American farm products.

In particular, Rep. Yim Tok-kyu of the KNP took issue with President Reagan's remarks that the United States, like Korea, "accepts the existing reality of two Korean states and supports steps leading to improved relations among those states and their allies." Minister Yi, as expected, said he understood that the American head of state made the remarks "out of the necessity to ease tension" on the Korean peninsula.

On possible military cooperation with Japan: Minister of Defense Yun Song-min disclosed that Korea will "pursue" defense cooperation with Japan on a gradual basis to cope with the growing Soviet arms buildup in the Far East when conditions are ripe, based on both the Korea-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty and the U.S.-Japan security pact. Rep. Yim Pang-hyon of the majority DJP, who suggested the defense cooperation, urged the government to take steps to have Korean troops participate in joint military exercises and formulate military strategies with the United States and Japan.

However, Minister Yi ruled out the possibility of pursuing military cooperation with Japan, stressing that the Korea-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty is the mainstay of Korea's security system.

Minister Yi said the government will try hard to cut North Korea from the world political arena to have the Communist regime return to the negotiation table for talks on unification. "My view is that North Korea will have little choice but to return to the negotiation table if it is isolated from the world," he said.

Both ruling and opposition lawmakers, however, expressed worry that if isolated completely from the world, North Korea might become desperate and try to inflict much harm on the south. They, nonetheless, shared the view that the Pyongyang regime should be condemned by countries around the globe for the savage bombing in Pangoon which killed 17 Koreans including four Cabinet ministers.

On the open-door foreign policy: The foreign minister acknowledged that "new hurdles" lie before the "Nordpolitik" because Moscow refuses to provide "just" compensation to the families of those killed by the Soviet downing of a civilian Korean airplane in which 269 persons were lost. He said, however, Korea did not "shut the door" to the USSR.

"Nonpolitical" contacts including trade with China and East European communist nations should be pursued on a continual basis, Yi stressed. But, he foresaw no possibility that there will be a dramatic change in Seoul-Beijing relations in the near future due to the intransigence of the part of the North Korean regime.

Imports of industrial goods: Minister of Commerce and Industry Kum Chin-ho disclosed that Washington has called on Korea to import 32 items including small computers, automobiles, refrigerators, cosmetics, and razors. He indicated that some of those items might gain access to the local market in months. There were news reports suggesting that Seoul will authorize the importation of some of those items during January.

Agriculture-Fisheries Minister Pak Chong-mun, however, made it clear that the Korean Government will take no action to expand the list of farm imports from the United States. He suggested that only lemons, which are not grown here, could be brought into the country.

Bank interest rates: The government has at present no plan to readjust bank interest rates upward as prices are "stabilized." He held the view that bank interest rates should be left to the market forces, but short of calling for increases in the interest rates. The ruling DJP, however, is of the opinion that the current interest rates need to be restructured in order to attract idle money into financial institutions.

Foreign debts: In response to worries by lawmakers, Finance Minister Kim Man-che said that the nation's foreign debt-service ratio this year will go down "somewhat" over last year's 15.5 percent largely thanks to a reduction of international balance of payment deficits. He said the foreign debts, which totaled \$38.2 billion as of the end of last June, are "manageable." There is a plan to hold the external debts to the level of \$50 billion in 1986, the final year of the current long-term five-year economic development plan. The debts were originally expected to reach \$64.5 billion by then. Deputy Premier Sin also expressed optimism that the nation will be able to overcome the situation.

Construction service export: A great deal of concern was expressed by lawmakers at either plenary sessions or panel meetings on whether Korean builders will be able to overcome their difficulties. Construction Minister Kim Song-pae rejected rumors that contractors are in a crisis.

BRIEFS

PASSPORT POLICY -- Seoul, Nov. 4 (YONHAP) -- The South Korean Government plans to review the qualifications of its nationals holding long-term passports and nullify the ones whose bearers are no longer entitled to them because of job changes or other reasons, sources at the Foreign Ministry said Friday. The move was motivated in part by the overseas departure in recent months of some Korean businessmen implicated in banking scandals, the sources said. The Korean Government has issued passports valid for five years to qualified businessmen, cultural figures, and journalists, among others. The Foreign Ministry is working on an amendment to current passport laws that will legalize the revocation of long-term passports issued to those whose status no longer makes them eligible holders, the sources said. [Text] [Seoul YONHAP in English 0102 GMT 4 Nov 83 SK]

DAEWOO EXPANSION IN U.S. -- Seoul, Nov. 2 (YONHAP) -- A leading South Korean electronic company will establish a locally-incorporated electronics firm in the United States in 1984, business sources said Wednesday. Daewoo Electronics Co., a subsidiary of the Daewoo business conglomerate, is conducting a survey of the site and the capital needed for its U.S. firm which will manufacture household electronic appliances such as color television sets and electronics ranges, the sources said. Daewoo already inaugurated an industrial appliance research center in the Silicon Valley, California, in June this year. Daewoo was encouraged to establish the plant in the United States by favorable response from U.S. consumers who used Daewoo's electronic products in the second half of 1983. It also expects increasing demands as a result of its stepped-up sales activities in the United States, the sources said. [Text] [Seoul YONHAP in English 1137 GMT 2 Nov 83 SK]

COURT TOLD OF CHON ALLEGED ASSASSIN'S STATEMENT

BK231327 Hong Kong AFP in English 1302 GMT 23 Nov 83

[By Khin Maung Thwin]

[Text] Rangoon, Nov 23 (AFP) -- A three-man North Korean assassination squad was sent to Burma with specific orders from an Army general to kill South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan and they were aided by the North Korean Embassy here, a Rangoon court was told today. The revelation came on the second day of the trial of two North Korean army officers for their alleged role in the October 9 bomb attack here which killed 17 visiting South Korean officials and four Burmese.

The testimony centered around a signed statement made by Captain Kang Min Chul, 28, who is standing trial along with Major Zim Mo on charges of murder, homicide and arms possession.

The four prosecution witnesses included Director General Thein Aung, secretary of the commission formed to investigate the bombing, and Police Deputy Director Tin Hlaing, also on the panel.

Capt Kang's statement said that he, Major Zim and Captain Kim Chi Oh, all members of a reconnaissance company stationed at Kae Song, near the Demilitarized Zone separating the two Koreas, were ordered by General Tae Chong Su to assassinate Mr Chong during his state visit to Burma.

Capt Kim was shot dead by police two days after the bombing as he tried to escape arrest.

The team left North Korea on September 9 from the port of Ong Gin aboard a North Korean ship which reached Rangoon on September 22 or 23, the statement said. They were met by North Korean Embassy staff who hid them in Counsellor Chou Cheng Hui's residence in west Rangoon.

Capt Kang's statement said that the explosives used in the bombing arrived two days later.

The team knew of Mr Chun's visit from Seoul radio broadcasts. Their superiors had told them that delegations visiting Burma usually paid their respects to Burma's heroes at the Martyrs' Mausoleum on the second day of their trip.

The officers left the residence three days before the attack and hid near the mausoleum. In the early hours of October 7, while Major Zim stood watch, the two captains placed the explosives under the mausoleum roof above the tomb of General Aung San, the architect of Burma's independence.

On October 9, after spending the night in the nearby bushes, they watched the South Korean motorcade arrive and at 10:25 am, Major Zim detonated the bomb by remote control, the statement indicated. Four South Korean Cabinet ministers were among those killed in the blast, but President Chon missed death as his car was delayed by a few minutes.

The assassination squad then dispersed with orders not to return to the embassy residence, the statement indicated.

Major Zim Mo was captured on October 10 while swimming in the [words indistinct] creek, which flows into the Rangoon river. He appeared to be heading for the ship. A day later, Capt Kang and Kim were tracked down some 30 km (19 miles) outside the capital. Kim was shot dead while attempting to escape and Kang was captured the next day. Three Burmese soldiers were killed when he detonated a grenade in an apparent suicide bid. Kang lost his arm. The trial continues tomorrow.

KNU PRESENTS DEMANDS FOR RELEASE OF CAPTIVES

BK230226 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Nov 83 p 3

[Text] Mae Sot, Tak -- The Karen National Union (KNU) yesterday made three demands, addressed to the French Government, for the release of a French couple held captive here since October 18.

The demand letter was handed to a three-man "go-between" team from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) by KNU president Bo Mya, who, together with KNU Premier Saw Than Aung, took part in negotiations held at a Karen stronghold opposite Ban Song Yang of Tha Song Yang District. The French Government had asked the ICRC team to negotiate the release of French engineer Jacques Bossu, 26, and his wife, Martine, 26, who were kidnapped from a cement plant, about 150 kilometres east of Rangoon.

Gen Bo Mya later told the BANGKOK POST that the three-point demand included Paris recognition of the KNU; reduction of French aid to the Rangoon Government or French aid for the KNU if the French Government insists on continuing aid to Rangoon. Gen Bo Mya insisted that the capture of the Bossus was not kidnapping but part of a KNU political campaign against the Rangoon Government. He added that he expected a reply from the French Government, via the ICRC team, by Friday.

A Karen source told the POST that the Karens would go ahead with the couple's December 2 trial if no reply was received. The couple face a minimum of 10 years imprisonment for aiding the Burmese Government -- a crime in the eyes of the KNU.

BANGKOK POST REPORTS KAREN 'FULL COMBAT ALERT'

BK200752 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Nov 83 p 3

[Text] Mae Sot, Tak -- Karen rebels, under orders to defend their territory at all costs, went on full combat alert at four strongholds along the Thai-Burmese border opposite this province in anticipation of heavy attacks by Burmese troops within the next three days. A Karen rebel source said last night that the alert order was received yesterday at their positions at Phalu, 16 kilometres south of here; Wang Kha, 12 km in the north, Maw Pokay, about 90 km north of this district and Mae Torwaw, about 140 km north of Mae Sot.

Karen rebels are expecting heavy attacks by 10 Burmese infantry battalions with possible support of heavy artillery, fighter-bombers and helicopters within the next three days, according to radio interception by Karens, the source said.

Intelligence reports received by the Karens indicated that a Burmese colonel, believed to be a military operations adviser arrived at the Myawadi military headquarters on Friday and returned to Moulmein. The source said the Karens believed he came to advise on battle strategy. The source said that the Karen troops under the command of Maj Mu Tu at Phalu, Col Tor Lah at Wang Kha, Maj Pako at Mor Pokay and Capt Trainer at Mae Torwaw, were on full combat alert and that they were ordered by their superiors to defend their positions at all costs.

Karen women and children living around the four Karen strongholds were planning to evacuate to Thailand if fighting erupted while many of them crossed into Thailand during day time and returned at night, the source said. Karen troops as well as civilians were also stocking up dry food in anticipation of fighting, said the source.

On the Thai side of the border, a company of Army-trained Rangers based at the Song Yang District and two companies of Border Patrol Police in Mae Sot and Mae Ramat districts were also ordered to be on alert to protect Thai residents living along the border in case the fighting spills over.

NOUHAK PHOUMSAVAN, DELEGATION LEAVE FOR MOSCOW

BK230456 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] On the afternoon of 22 November, Nouhak Phoumsavan, member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, first vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and chairman of the Lao-Soviet Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation, and a delegation of the government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic led by him left Vientiane by special plane to attend the fifth session of the Lao and Soviet inter-governmental commissions for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation, which will be held in Moscow, capital of the Soviet Union, late this month.

During the session, the two sides will jointly discuss and review past work and make agreements on certain issues which are aimed at further increasing the efficiency in the cooperation between the two countries in order to successfully translate into reality the various projects as stipulated in already signed plans and agreements on cooperation.

The delegation was seen off at Wattai Airport by General Khamtai Siphandon, member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of national defense, and commander in chief of the LPA; Sali Vongkhamdao, secretary of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and chairman of the State Planning Committee; General Sisavat Keobounphan, secretary of the party Central Committee, interior minister, chief of the General Staff of the LPA, and secretary of the Vientiane municipal party committee; and ministers or deputy ministers together with many high-ranking cadres.

Also on hand to see Nouhak Phoumsavan and his party off at the airport were Houssak, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Soviet Union; Nguyen Xuan, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SRV; and Shiv Kumar, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of India to Laos.

SRV, PRK MINISTERS ATTEND FOLK FESTIVAL

BK211124 Vientiane KPL in English 0857 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Vientiane, November 21 (OANA-KPL) -- The Indochinese festival of folk songs and dances yesterday afternoon was officially opened here.

The objectives of the festival, besides aiming at drawing lessons in the field among artists of Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea, are to enhance mutual understanding; and through the art form, the three peoples would be proud and see the necessity in having the relation of great friendship and special militant solidarity and all-round cooperation, said the Lao Minister of Culture Thongsing Thammavong in his address.

It was also said that the festival is aimed at mobilising the mass to fight against arms-race, and nuclear war.

Also addressing the inaugural ceremony were Nguyen Van Hieu and Cheng Phon, respectively, ministers of culture of Vietnam and Kampuchea who both are also members of the festival committee.

The festival will last till November 28 having the premier performed at the That Luang festival here.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF AUSTRALIA'S HAWKE

Report on Talks With Prem

BK211248 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Today's consultation between Australian Prime Minister Robert J.L. Hawke and Thai Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon at Government House was reportedly held in an excellent atmosphere. Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila, who was also present at the meeting, told newsmen that the Australian prime minister showed his sincerity in solving the misunderstanding between ASEAN and Australia and confirmed support for the ASEAN stand on the settlement of the Kampuchean problem. Today's meeting has improved the situation made difficult by inaccurate mass media reports in the past, especially regarding the statement by the Singaporean foreign minister. The foreign minister said the current visit by the Australian prime minister is aimed at clearing up certain misunderstandings and today's meeting has achieved that goal.

On the settlement of the Kampuchean problem, he said Australia adheres to the same principles, that is, there must be a withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea and self-government by the Kampuchean people. Australia, which is an Asian country, wants to see peace in the region. It will always remain a good friend of Thailand and ASEAN. The foreign minister said Australia also pledged continued support for the Indochinese refugees in Thailand.

On bilateral trade, Australia also pledged to expand trade exchanges with Thailand. Australia will not reduce the import quota on Thai sugar next year despite the fact that Thailand's sugar exports to Australia this year have exceeded the set quota. Australia also agreed to join the Association of Tin Producing Countries. On investment, Australia will send its officials to survey of the eastern seaboard industrial projects and study the possibility of joint ventures.

Discussion of SRV, Kampuchea

BK220201 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Nov 83 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt] Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke announced yesterday his Labour government was giving 10.5 million baht to Vietnam to buy food for disaster relief, but said he had not made a decision on whether to resume development assistance to Hanoi.

Mr Hawke told Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon and Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila of the Australian \$500,000 grant to Hanoi during their talks at Government House and at the Oriental Hotel.

He said the aid was first broached to ASEAN governments several weeks ago and that they had no objections. The grant would buy about 1,000 tons of rice and directed to Vietnam's central provinces, where recent typhoons reportedly killed about 500 Vietnamese.

The disclosure of the aid to Hanoi was the only new development reported in a day of talks between Mr Hawke and Gen Prem which saw the Australian leader basically reiterate previous statements on his policies towards ASEAN and Indochina. Mr Hawke said, however, that the issue of resuming the annual ASEAN-Australian dialogue was not raised because it was "not an appropriate topic" for yesterday's talks. The talks were "postponed" indefinitely last month after Australia refused to co-sponsor ASEAN's annual resolution on Kampuchea at the UN. (The Australian Embassy announced last night that Mr Hawke would hold a news conference this morning at 9:45 at the Oriental Hotel.)

The Australian Prime Minister said that the United Nations had made a request to member nations for help to Vietnam, adding that Australia will respond to the request through the UN Disaster Relief Organisation. In the wake of a natural disaster, he said, ASEAN could not quibble about this type of aid.

Speaking about development aid, Mr Hawke said he had explained Australia's position to Gen Prem and ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi adding that this was nothing new and that the Thai leaders understood this. He said Thai officials understood Australia's position and would be having further discussions with their ASEAN counterparts. The Australian prime minister said that he did not come to Bangkok to ask Thailand to act as an emissary for Australia. But he said he felt "relaxed" about the outcome of the talks.

Speaking about his talks with Gen Prem, Mr Hawke said both agreed their discussions had been useful in clarifying "misunderstandings" between Thailand and Australia.

Prem, Hawke Speak at State Dinner

BK220327 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 22 Nov 83

["Bangkok AM Special Report" feature]

[Text] The Right Honorable Robert J.L. Hawke, the prime minister of Australia, and Mrs Hawke and party are concluding their official visit to Thailand today. Last night they were given a dinner in their honor. The prime minister of Thailand, General Prem Tinsulanon, welcomed him and said:

[Begin Prem recording] The discussion we had this morning was highly fruitful and outstanding for its frankness and cordiality. It shows that Australia and Thailand have a healthy and mature relationship, resting on the firm foundations of friendship and understanding. This is the result of the long and mutually beneficial cooperation which our countries have been enjoying in common pursuit of the shared ideals of freedom, peace, and prosperity.

Mr Prime Minister, Thailand regards Australia as belonging to the Asia-Pacific nation. We value you as a member of the family -- a family member especially close to us, Thailand and ASEAN. The future of peace and stability of Southeast Asia therefore rests also on Australia's contributions. This is not the first time that we are called upon together to resist forces of oppression. Now, on Kampuchea, Australia has stood side by side with Thailand and the ASEAN countries. At the world organization, Australia has consistently supported the UN resolution on the situation in Kampuchea. This resolution has been adopted by the overwhelming majority of the UN General Assembly for 5 years running. Australia also participated actively in the UN International Conference on Kampuchea in 1981. Lest it has been misunderstood, Australia, Thailand, and the ASEAN countries are in complete agreement that we want to restore the UN principles of respect of the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of states; noninterference in the internal affairs of states; and the inadmissibility of the threat or use of force in international relations. [end recording]

Whereupon the right honorable prime minister of Australia, Mr Robert J.L. Hawke, gave his answer:

[Begin Hawke recording] Australia sees its own future as being (?indissolubly) linked with the future of this region. Strong and close associations are being developed between Australia and countries of the region in such wide-ranging areas as trade, two-way investment, refugee assistance and resettlement, defense cooperation, overseas student programs, development assistance, business, professional, and tourism links. The scale of this Australian involvement with the region should be appreciated. Total Australian-ASEAN two-way trade in 1982-83 was valued at U.S. \$3.2 billion. Two-way investment was worth U.S. \$2.04 billion in the 5 years to 1982. Eighty-one-and-a-half-thousand Indochinese refugees have been resettled in Australia, and 24,000 of these have been resettled from Thailand. There are some 12,000 Southeast Asian students studying in Australia. Australian aid to the ASEAN countries in 1983-84 will be worth in excess of U.S.\$100 million. The Australian defense cooperation program in the same year will contribute more than U.S.\$20 million to the ASEAN countries, not including the cost of maintaining an RAAF squadron at Butterworth. Some 235,000 Australian tourists visited the region in 1982, a major boost to the economies of populous destinations such as Thailand.

The depth and the extent of Australia's partnership with the ASEAN countries is therefore considerable, and for our part, we are committed to building on and extending it. It is a partnership which has been assiduously developed over many years and has now reached the point where substantial Australian and regional interest are intimately bound up with its continued development. Southeast Asia is strategically important to Australia. Australia shares with the ASEAN countries a strong sense of the need to maintain regional peace and stability. Australia is deeply concerned by any development which might either threaten regional security or [word indistinct] the territorial integrity and stability of regional countries. In this regard, the position of Thailand is one of particular sensitivity. Australia recognizes this and quite deliberately as a consequence has been building up its defense cooperation program with Thailand from almost nothing 4 years ago to approximately \$4 million a year. We intend to maintain this commitment.

Australia sees it as particularly important that great power rivalry not dictate the cause of events in this region. The projection of Soviet influence into the Indochina situation has rendered the task of achieving a solution to the problems of the area immeasurably more difficult. It can only be to the detriment of the countries of this region that the Soviet Union is now establishing a foothold for its own political and military purposes in Indochina. The risks associated with this consolidation of this Soviet interest in the region are considerable. Australia, strongly mindful of these risks, is concerned that continued isolation of Vietnam will only serve to exacerbate or heighten those risks.

It is in none of our interests that Vietnam continues to be in a situation of virtual isolation in the international community resting almost solely on the relationship with the Soviet Union. It has a legitimate role in the region in peaceful cooperation with its neighbors. As ASEAN itself can see, what Australia wants to see is the reestablishment of cooperative working relations between the countries of Indochina and other regional countries with an attendant diminution of great power involvement. Australia's interest in developing a relevant relationship with Vietnam is directed toward achieving this.

The Cambodian situation is obviously the greatest unresolved source of tension within the region. It is also the greatest obstacle to the normalization of relations between Vietnam and its neighbors. Australia shares ASEAN's views that the central issue of the Kampuchean problem is the survival of the Kampuchean nation and the restoration of its independence and sovereignty. With ASEAN foreign ministers, we agree that the total withdrawal of foreign forces, the exercise of self-determination, and national reconciliation are essential elements for the survival of an independent and sovereign Kampuchea. And this identity of view between Australia and ASEAN stems directly from common strategic perceptions about the requirements of regional peace and security. On the fundamentals, we are at one. I reiterate unequivocally the Australian Government's condemnation, made repeatedly by both me and the Australian Foreign Minister, Bill Hayden, of Vietnam's invasion and continued occupation of Kampuchea. With ASEAN, we want to see an independent, nonaligned, and neutral Kampuchea, free of foreign forces and with a government of its own choice. In line with this, Australia has been seeking to promote dialogue between the parties, a dialogue directed toward achieving Vietnamese withdrawal.

We have no illusions, Mr Prime Minister, either about our own influence or the complexity of the problems involved. There is, for example, a concern that many would share, including the ASEAN countries, that any withdrawal of Vietnamese forces would provide an opportunity for the forces of Pol Pot once again to establish a sort of regime which terrorized and tyrannized Kampuchea tragically for so long. Such a development would be abhorrent to our government and to the people of Australia. Herein lies Australia's particular difficulty with the Kampuchean resistance coalition. Khmer Rouge involvement with the coalition renders recognition by Australia impossible. It seems to us that the apparent predominance of the Khmer Rouge within it, notwithstanding the commendable efforts and the integrity of both Prince Sihanouk and Son Sann, carries with it the unacceptable possibility of the imposition of the Khmer Rouge in Kampuchea. Now, that prospect does nothing to justify continued Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea; rather, what it does is to point up the need to step up efforts that would at once secure Vietnamese withdrawal from Kampuchea and insure the Khmer Rouge could never again reimpose themselves as the government of that country. A political settlement of the Kampuchean problem is the only way such a result can be secured.

Ultimately, Mr Prime Minister, some basis for dialogue may exist within the various proposals put forward by both sides. For example, Vietnam's recent references in conversation with Australia's foreign minister to a possible conference on Kampuchea is a future development in its current approach and the appeal issued by ASEAN foreign ministers in September, including a call for international conference, not necessarily under UN auspices, on the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Kampuchea to follow Vietnamese military withdrawal. I suggested a new and possible productive line of approach. These developments, coming as they do at the same time as ASEAN foreign ministers have formed a working group of officials to study how best to develop the proposals in their 20 September appeal, holds some hope of movement, if not immediately, certainly within the foreseeable future. [end Hawke recording]

Hawke Holds Press Conference

BK220938 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Hawke, said today in Bangkok that Australia had no plans to provide Vietnam with development aid and indicated such aid would only be forthcoming when Hanoi withdrew its troops from Kampuchea. At the same time, Mr Hawke urged the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the United States, and other countries to strive for a dialogue with Vietnam to lessen its dependence on the Soviet Union.

At a news conference at the end of his 3-day visit to Thailand, Mr Hawke said that both Australia and ASEAN shared basic policy goals on Kampuchea. These were the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from the country and self-determination. The prime minister said there were signs that both Vietnam and ASEAN are adopting a softer line on the Kampuchean problem. He said there was evidence of both sides shifting from their previously uncompromising positions.

Mr Hawke said that providing development aid to Vietnam would be counterproductive if Hanoi did not meet the precondition of withdrawing from Kampuchea. He said that he could not have been more satisfied with his talks in Thailand which had clarified recent misunderstanding between Australia and ASEAN on the question of Kampuchea.

During his visit to Bangkok, Mr Hawke did announce that Australia would be providing Vietnam with half a million dollars worth of disaster relief to assist victims of recent typhoons. From Bangkok Mr Hawke will fly to New Delhi for the Commonwealth heads of government meeting where he is expected to have more talks with leaders of Singapore and Malaysia on the Kampuchean issue.

Cofinancing Agreement Signed

BK220223 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Nov 83 p 3

[Text] After a few last-minute morning wrangles, Thailand and Australia finally signed a co-financing agreement on development projects yesterday afternoon. Thai objections to the agreement's officially described as minor, were ironed out and the Thai and Australian foreign ministers formally accepted the agreement, just a few hours behind schedule.

The final document was to have been signed as Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon and his counterpart Bob Hawke looked on. Instead, Foreign Ministers Sitthi Sawetsila and Bill Hayden put their names on the paper after officials hurriedly worked out wordings satisfactory to the Thai side.

Director-General of the Foreign Ministry's Economics Department Manatphat Chuto told reporters that he raised the objections because the wording concerning privileges for the Australian Government were too broad. "It (the dispute) had to do with privileges we have to give them," Mr Manatphat said. "It was a matter of wording which we originally felt was too broad. It was totally a technical matter."

During the morning, there were fears that the agreement, which lays out guidelines for combining aid from Australia and the World Bank for several development projects in Thailand, would not be signed.

A former deputy prime minister and foreign minister last week recommended the entire agreement be laid aside because of the diplomatic row between ASEAN and Australia over Canberra's Indochina policy. In an open letter to Gen Prem sent to the BANGKOK POST, Mr Thanat Khoman last Saturday argued that the agreement should not be signed at a time of Australian-ASEAN differences over Kampuchea because it would upset ASEAN unity. But Mr Manatphat denied the dispute had anything to do with the delay in yesterday's signing. "The agreement concerns Australian and World Bank aid, so the ministry has to specially consider the matter. It has nothing to do with politics," he said.

An Australian source also said that Thai objections over privileges and aid advisers to Thailand "was nothing of substance." The co-financing agreement extends the scope of assistance which Australia is able to provide Thailand. By using Australian bilateral grant funds for technical assistance, scientific expertise, training and supplies, Thailand will be able to use World Bank loans more efficiently.

The agreement also covers Australian advisers who will help to design, manage and execute World Bank projects in the fields of agriculture, urban development and energy.

Thai Foreign Ministry officials said yesterday morning that the agreement would not be signed. But after two morning rounds of talks between Mr Hawke and Gen Prem and their senior officials, and after a two-hour working lunch between Foreign Ministers Sitthi and Hayden, the amendments were made and the agreement was signed by the two ministers at 2:45 p.m. at the Oriental Hotel.

ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi told reporters that other economic topics raised included co-investments and Australian support for Thailand's tin quota at the next International Tin Council meeting in London.

"Prime Minister Prem raised the issue of coinvestment in Thailand particularly in the gas and oil eastern seaboard development project. The Australian side expressed interest and said that further consultations will have to be made," ACM Sitthi said.

With respect to the tin quota, ACM Sitthi explained that Thailand has this year exceeded the internationally set tin export quota by 27,000 tons and is asking Australia to support its appeal that the amount not be subtracted from Thailand's quota for next year.

NATION on Visit, 'Dispute'

BK220257 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 22 Nov 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Hawke Stresses Only Basic Issue in Kampuchea"]

[Text] Possibly it was wrong on the part of all parties concerned that much had been expected from Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke's visit to Thailand. Too much emphasis had been laid on the fact that there will be relevant explanations forthcoming so much so that the scabs resulting from a minor dispute between Australia and ASEAN would disappear. We have consistently held that a dispute -- call it a misunderstanding, if you will -- and be smoothed over but the process of healing will be slow and long drawn out.

But we would say that Hawke has started out on the right foot and in his speech at the state dinner yesterday, he emphasized the similarity of views between ASEAN and Australia saying that there are only differences in the approach to the Kampuchean problem. In his own words: "...On the main issues of principle, there is fundamental agreement. In terms of giving effect to these principles there have been some differences of emphasis." He also points out that Australia has a clear and independent foreign policy and nobody can object to that.

However, we think that Australia's line of thinking is not based on facts. For instance, Australia has kept on harping about Vietnam's isolation and we cannot understand how Australia came to this conclusion. If Vietnam chooses to become a close friend and a surrogate of the Soviet Union, by Hawke's own definition of foreign policy, she has the right to do so. What she does not have the right to do is to invade and occupy another country. Hawke sees this point very clearly and that is what he has emphasized most. But he does not say why an independent Australian foreign policy should deviate from the ASEAN stand on the same issue -- a deviation just to underline independence?

Hawke has also revived the issue of dialogue with Hanoi. Almost all ASEAN leaders have had bilateral talks with the Vietnamese foreign minister. But Hanoi's idea of a dialogue is between ASEAN on one side and Indochina, represented by the governments in Hanoi, Vientiane and Phnom Penh on the other.

What Hawke means by a dialogue is not clear. Does he want the type of dialogue which Vietnam has proposed? We doubt that because Hawke would not want ASEAN to grant de facto recognition to the puppet government of Heng Samrin.

Hawke also refers to an international conference on Kampuchea and Vietnam's interest in it. We are not quite sure Vietnam or the Soviet Union would attend if such a conference were convened since they did not do so the last time. But that does not mean that those two countries would boycott a future conference. Australia has shown its inclination to be a mediator and if it can use whatever influence it has in Hanoi to promote such a conference, ASEAN will be most thankful.

But neither Hawke nor his Foreign Minister Bill Hayden touched on the root of the original dispute that arose from Australia's refusal to co-sponsor the ASEAN resolution in the UN General Assembly. Possibly in their discussions with Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon and Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila, the subject came up but if any rational explanation was given it has remained a secret. Australia's decision to accentuate the positive is commendable but to sidestep what we prefer to call a misunderstanding is not in the interests of maintaining a sustained friendship with ASEAN.

Hawke Meets Newsmen

BK221421 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] The Australian prime minister stated that ASEAN's and Australia's stands on Kampuchea are based on similar principles with only differences in approach. He said he believes that ASEAN and Australia can work together without any problem. Australian Prime Minister Robert J.L. Hawke made the above statement during a press conference held at the Oriental Hotel at 1000 today. He said that during his official visit to Thailand from 20-22 November he met with Prime Minister Gen Prem Tinsulanon and Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila.

Talking to the mass media about Australia's stand on the settlement of the Kampuchean problem, the Australian prime minister said Australia agreed with ASEAN in principle on the withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Kampuchea, the right to self-determination of the Kampuchean people, and the restoration of normalcy in Kampuchea. Hawke stressed that Australia agreed with a phased withdrawal of Vietnamese forces until all Vietnamese soldiers are completely pulled out of Kampuchea. He said Australia does not want to see the isolation of Vietnam because that would make Vietnam become more dependent on the Soviet Union. He noted that Australia's aid given to Vietnam is disaster relief aid and not development aid which, he said, would be made only after consultations with ASEAN countries. Hawke said that the present isolation of Vietnam is caused by Vietnam's own acts and not by ASEAN. The best solution for the problem is for the Vietnamese forces to be withdrawn from Kampuchea. Vietnam has itself stated that it would carry out a phased withdrawal if it would not lead to the return of the Khmer Rouge. Hawke said he believed this approach would help in achieving a genuine settlement of the Kampuchean problem.

The Australian prime minister said Australia has understanding and sympathy for Thailand as a frontline state. It has, therefore, provided Thailand with security assistance, such as training scholarships for Thai soldiers in Australia. At the end of the press conference, Hawke said he hoped that he will be able to determine Vietnam's attitude on Kampuchea from Nguyen Co Thach who will visit Australia soon.

The Australian prime minister said that his country will join the Association of the Tin Producing Countries and that this would enable Australia to better cooperate with Thailand in this area as Thailand is also a member of the association.

Hawke Departs for Delhi

BK221459 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Australian Prime Minister Robert J.L. Hawke who visited Thailand since 20 November has ended his visit and left this afternoon for India. The Australian prime minister left by a special flight for India accompanied by his wife and a delegation. The Thai Government last night hosted a dinner in honor of the Australian prime minister.

Officials Express Satisfaction

BK230112 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Thai officials yesterday expressed satisfaction at the visit of Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke, and particularly with two statements made by him.

A high-ranking Foreign Ministry source told the POST after Mr Hawke had left Bangkok for New Delhi that he thought the visit had gone well.

The source said that officials were pleased that Australia had recognised Thailand's particular and legitimate military concerns as a frontline state.

Mr Hawke also satisfied Thai officials with his statement that Australia now recognises that Vietnam's isolation is its own doing and not that of ASEAN, the source said.

These points were made by Mr Hawke at his news conference yesterday, and at the state dinner held in his honour at Government House on Monday night.

Mr Hawke also reiterated at yesterday's press conference that it was useless for ASEAN and Australia to go over the sore points which caused the heated exchange between them last week.

While the Thai source was happy with the two points, Australian diplomatic sources said Australia had not thought that ASEAN had pushed Vietnam into isolation.

The sources said however that this was a "perception" which had somehow come about adding that the matter had not been clear before Mr Hawke's visit.

Mr Hawke reiterated that discussions with Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon and Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila "were quite useful in clarifying previous misunderstandings."

AUSTRALIA SIGNS AGREEMENT TO JOIN TIN GROUP

BK231115 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Australia has signed an agreement in Bangkok to become a member in the Association of Tin Producing Countries. The country would be the seventh member of the association founded jointly in June this year by Thailand, Indonesia, and Malaysia. The other members of the association are Bolivia, Zaire, and Nigeria. Signing the agreement on behalf of the Australian Government was Australian Foreign Minister William Hayden who accompanied the Australian prime minister on a 3-day official visit here early this week. Australia ranks fifth of the world's major tin producing countries. Australia's participation in the association reflects the unity of tin producing countries to safeguard mutual interests among tin producers.

SINGAPORE'S LEE KUAN YEW, DHANABALAN ARRIVE

BK221647 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1230 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew of Singapore and his foreign minister, Suppiah Dhanabalan, are now in Bangkok for a 3-hour stopover before leaving for New Delhi to attend the Commonwealth meeting. The Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila would brief them on talks with Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke. Concerning the different approaches on Kampuchean problem, while the Australian believes that direct talks with Hanoi could be more useful, ASEAN, which links Thailand with Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines, prefers UN auspices for the political settlement of the problem.

SRV DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES, HOLDS TALKS

BK231155 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 23 Nov 83 p 32

[Text] Deputy Vietnamese Foreign Minister Ha Van Lau quietly arrived in Bangkok from Switzerland yesterday. He is staying at the Vietnamese Embassy.

This morning he met National Security Council (NSC) Secretary-General Squadron leader Prasong Sunsiiri at Government House and held talks lasting for more than half an hour. The embassy said that Mr Lau will stay in Bangkok for a few days before flying back to Hanoi.

USSR TRADE OFFICIAL SEEKS BOOST IN COMMERCE

BK230252 Hong Kong AFP in English 1147 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Bangkok, Nov 22 (AFP) -- The Soviet Union is exploring ways to offer technical assistance to Thailand to boost bilateral trade, a senior Soviet trade official said here today.

Yuriy Mikhailov, Soviet trade commissioner in Thailand, told a press conference that a total of 71 developing countries were receiving economic assistance from the Soviet Union. For example, he said, the Soviet Union was helping to set up a steel plant in Pakistan and a power station in Bangladesh, but he added: "So far we don't have anything in Thailand." He said that some of Soviet trade officials now attending the week-long Soviet trade fair and seminar -- opened at a hotel here yesterday -- had discussed expanding economic cooperation with senior officials of the Thai National Economic and Social Development Board and the Board of Trade.

The total volume of two-way trade between Thailand and the Soviet Union is about 10 times higher now than it was four years ago -- despite sharp differences during this period in the political field over Kampuchea. The Soviet Union imported 183.3 million dollars of Thai goods last year, while exporting to Thailand items valued at 12.3 million dollars, according to Soviet Embassy figures.

A total of 15 Soviet companies and 14 trade experts are attending the exhibition aimed at acquainting Thais with Soviet export potential and promoting Soviet goods in the kingdom. Only posters and brochures showing Soviet-made goods including machinery, firearms, cars, glassware and plastics were on display. Organizers said earlier that high transportation costs prevented sending the actual goods.

Mr Mikhailov said the exhibitors had not predicted the amount of orders they would receive from Thai businessmen during the fair.

U.S. FLEET COMMANDER MEETS WITH ADMIRAL PRAPHAT

BK221146 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Chief of the U.S. 7th Fleet Vice Admiral James R. Hogg on 18 November called on Royal Thai Navy Commander in Chief Admiral Praphat Chanthawirat at the navy headquarters. The chief of the U.S. 7th Fleet was leading a delegation on a visit to Thailand.

Admiral Praphat reported later that they exchanged views on the landing exercise under the Cobra Gold Plan to take place around July and August next year. The commander of the U.S. 7th Fleet said he had met the supreme commander and indicated the U.S. desire to have the Thai Army join in the exercise. The United States also offered to provide training for Thai Navy officers in the United States after the plan had been suspended for a few years.

The Royal Thai Navy commander in chief also reported on the Seventh Sea Power Symposium held in the United States which was attended by navy officers from 51 countries. He said they discussed the naval role and strength up to the year 2000. The United States urged an expansion of regional cooperation to cope with the various points of tension, such as in the Persian Gulf, Korea, and Grenada, as the United States cannot cope with all those areas simultaneously.

The navy chief said countries of the same region should cooperate and pool their use of weapons so that in time of crisis those countries can assist each other fully. He said the United States is selling Harpoon missiles to Thailand as well as to other countries in the region. He noted that many countries are using similar weapons. He said the major problem faced by the navy of each country up to the year 2000 will be the problem of shipbuilding because of rapid changes in technology. Thailand will have to spend a great deal of money on this if it follows the market trend. He said the navy is playing an important role in present-day wars because of its quick deployment capability.

Asked about the Soviet buildup in this region and its impact on Thailand, the navy commander in chief said the Soviet Union is not at war with Thailand and the two countries do not have a common border. He said it depends whether Thailand would make war with the Soviet proxy.

We are aware of what is going on and we are always prepared for any eventuality. Thailand will not be a proxy for anybody. It is independent. Yet, it has to depend on weapons and training from the United States because the United States is a big country. Thailand meanwhile has to be careful that U.S. aid does not turn it into another Lebanon.

Asked what the attitude of the Sea Power Symposium was concerning the threat to this region, Admiral Praphat said there was only a small threat by sea to the region as Vietnam and Kampuchea have a small navy. The main threat to the region is by land. Concern was expressed for Japan which is blocking the naval outlet of the Soviet Union. The symposium told Japan that it should strengthen its naval power.

BRIEFS

JAPANESE DONATION -- The Japanese Government has agreed to provide food aid worth 2,965 million yen to the Kampuchean and Lao refugees in Thailand and to the Thai displaced persons at the Thai-Kampuchean border. According to the Japan Information Service, the donation was made to World Program with letters exchanged in Rome on 31 October. [Summary] [Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 3 Nov 83 BK]

BA YI RADIO CRITICIZES CHINA'S ALLIANCE WITH U.S.

OW220249 Hanoi International Service in Mandarin 1130 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Radio talk: "Unprincipled Alliance With U.S. Imperialism"]

[Text] Toward the end of October, Ba Yi radio, an underground radio station in China, broadcast an article on U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger's visit to China. It exposed his arrogant remarks and acts during the visit, which the Chinese people must have pondered deeply over.

During his talks with Deng Xiaoping, Weinberger made a special effort to brag about American weapons. But at night, he told his aides: Although what we are going to sell to the Chinese would only be unsalable second- or third-grade weapons, the more of these weapons the Chinese buy, the tighter our rope around their neck would be and the more firmly would they be tied to the American war chariot.

When Weinberger visited Xian, he lavishly praised the historical architecture of the Great Wall and (?said) that the United States could help China build a new steel Great Wall. At night, Weinberger told his aides: Let the Chinese and the Russians fight each other; let them kill each other. After that we can build a flesh Great Wall with the bodies of the Chinese and the Russians.

Weinberger's remarks have further revealed the wild ambition of U.S. imperialism. The American official's arrogance is not at all surprising, because Reagan has flagrantly interfered in China's internal affairs since he took up residence at the White House. The most serious of the U.S. interferences are the two-China policy and the Taiwan question. Making Taiwan the unsinkable aircraft carrier of the United States in the East China Sea is [words indistinct] to China.

Citing (Rick Lyman), assistant to the U.S. President on East Asian affairs, FAR EAST ECONOMIC REVIEW said: China's modernization and strategy are subordinate, in U.S. views. I feel that Beijing can stand all humiliations (? which will not affect relations between the United States and China.)

For the sake of national dignity, the Chinese people cannot but express indignation at the present Chinese leaders' unprincipled compromise with U.S. imperialism. As pointed out by Ba Yi radio, instead of expressing disapproval of Weinberger's show of contempt for the Chinese, the Deng faction did everything possible to win the U.S. The Deng Xiaoping clique's secret ties with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency have reminded the Chinese people of the atrocities committed by this spy organization in directing Chiang Kai-shek's secret agents to murder many Chinese revolutionary fighters in the Sino-U.S. Cooperation Center in Chongqing and in other places in China. Today, the Chinese authorities have turned a deaf ear to the arrogant acts of U.S. imperialism and have tried everything possible to win U.S. favors even at the expense of selling out sovereignty over Taiwan. This shows that the present Chinese leaders have seriously undermined the Chinese people's interest and conscience.

BRIEFS

UK FLOOD RELIEF AID -- Britain's OXFAM organization has donated 50,000 pound sterling and 40,000 sweaters to flood victims in Vietnam. The British committee for scientific and technical assistance to Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea has also sent 10,000 pound sterling to help these victims buy medicine. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 11 Nov 83 BK]

AUSTRALIAFRENCH EXTERNAL RELATIONS MINISTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE

Part I

AB211210 Paris Diplomatic Information Service in English 1115 GMT 21 Nov 83

["First Part" of a Press Conference by French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson in Canberra on 16 November]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a very impressive exercise I am entering into. I heard a lot about the Press Club and about journalists in Australia. I was told that I would be eaten alive. I am very grateful I could have lunch before.

You are demanding. When a guest is invited by you, you expect him to speak his mind. Therefore, by far the most interesting part in our exercise will be the questions and answers one.

I think it is quite proper that you should be demanding when a visitor comes, mostly when it is a foreign secretary from a country that has never before sent its foreign secretary here. It is very surprising indeed that none of my predecessors should have come to Australia. I think I should confess I find it shocking. Why should we expect exchanges of views between Australia and France to take place only in Europe. I am very pleased I came and I am honoured to take this exam before you today.

It is all the more important that I did not come here to negotiate a contract or to deal with any specific matters. I came here to express our convictions that between Australia and France there should be much more frequent, deeper exchanges of views. Why? Because although we are at the opposite side of the world, we belong to the same world. We belong to the world of those countries that believe that man is the final objective of any policy, that believe in liberty, freedom of expression, that believe that law should be respected and that one should live in a regime of law. And that common belief that we have, in Europe, our allies in Northern America, you in every organization to which we belong. We do not belong to the same in many cases. We belong to the various fora and organizations in the South Pacific. You belong to the Commonwealth, we do belong to the European Community and to the various organizations in the Mediterranean. We are both in the OECD, in the United Nations and therefore we think that where there is a common approach it should be expressed in a convergent manner.

This would give us a better chance to be heard. And I feel that mostly in the present juncture where there are many tensions in the world there is much that we can express together.

Our foreign policy is based on the respect of some very simple principles, and we think that we can find no support in our public opinion and, a policy without popular support is worthless, we can find no support in our public opinion if we do not show very clearly what are the principles which we respect and which we defend in the world.

These are all based, as I said, on our concept of man and society, therefore we recognize the right to self-determination, we denounce occupation by foreign forces that have not been invited everywhere in the world be it in Namibia, in Kampuchea in the occupied territories by Israel, in Afghanistan. We express and demand that the rights of every people should be respected, the right of every people to be the master of their destiny. We demand it for us, as you do, you Australians, we recognize it for every people in the world and we demand that it should be respected for every people in the world.

This immediately leads me to what is one of the main issues in the present world of today, I mean the East-West tension. There we know exactly where we stand. We stand with those who have the same ideas about democracy, about the structure of a state and the rights of the individuals in the state. You are member of an alliance; we are member of another alliance. This being said, these alliances are no blocs, and we feel that we have a right to our own positions and to the expression of such positions with regard to our allies and the rest of the world.

Our alliance bears on the Atlantic and Europe. We should not forget that the situation in Europe is very different from that of your part of the world. Europe was artificially partitioned as the result of World War II. A number of countries feel under the domination of a totalitarian state and they still are there. We hope that the lessons of history will prevail and that one day the situation will be different. We shall do everything we can to try and help such development. Therefore our determination to keep relations in the cultural fields, in the economic field with those countries in Eastern Europe that have fallen under the Soviet Union, and with the Soviet Union itself. Therefore, our support to any policy that will facilitate relations. These are the reasons why we supported the Helsinki agreement and all conferences resulting from the Helsinki arrangement. The later one as you know was held in Madrid and will lead to a conference which we consider as extremely significant and important, I mean the conference of disarmament of Europe which will take place at Stockholm next January. We want to keep relations with our brothers in Eastern Europe. But at the same time, we shall keep on denouncing the system, the totalitarian system, which prevails there, a system in which air force pilots are given orders to shoot at civilian aircraft, a system in which occupation of neighbouring countries seems to be justified simply because there is suspicion of foreign activity, a system in which any sign of liberty may be countered as it was in Poland.

We shall keep on denouncing this, however close are the relations which we can maintain and promote with our neighbours. At the same time, we have to be protected against aggression. Aggression, when you live in Europe, has almost a physical meaning. It can take place any time, and we want to be protected against it, and we have to be. The danger is there, close at hand. We want to be protected but we will have peace. We hate the idea of war. Therefore, we have to build with our allies a system of protection which would at the same time make war impossible, unthinkable. I know that in Australia it may be difficult to understand what is so well understood in my country by the unanimity of my compatriots, which is that nuclear [as received] is the arm of peace. It is due to nuclear deterrent that there has been no war in Europe in spite of the very dangerous tensions which we have known several times in the past thirty years.

Nuclear deterrent: We wish there would be another deterrent. What could it be? Anyway it cannot happen overnight. Should one give up nuclear deterrence unilaterally? I say, very gravely, that this may mean World War III in a little time. That, this anyway, would mean a threat on our part of Europe that would let some other fall under another's domination. I am afraid that our love for peace being greater than our hatred of nuclear [as received]. We need nuclear for the time being. This must be said very candidly to our friends in Australia.

France wants to be independent in its defence as it is in its policy, therefore the decisions made years ago -- as a matter of fact it started when Mendes-France, to whom you were referring Mr President, was the prime minister -- therefore our decision to have our own independent nuclear force. It is limited in size but it must be kept qualitatively at the same level as that of those who could threaten us. Therefore, the need for us to have constant scientific, technological research, the need for us to test what should be tested, the need for us to allocate the necessary budget, necessary facilities in human terms to our nuclear system.

Does this mean that we are pleased with the present situation? Certainly not. For one because we feel that the level of our nuclear force is unbelievably high, irrationally high. A great effort can and should be made in order to limit armament, control armament, decrease the numbers.

There must be a balance of force. It is where the balance of forces is broken that there is a danger of war but the balance of forces can and should be put at a much lower level. Therefore, we shall keep on supporting negotiations for a dramatic reduction in the level of nuclear forces, and we hope that one day the two superpowers will have fallen from the 8 [as received] or 9,000 warheads level to a more reasonable level in order that we and the British can join them in common discussions about nuclear control of armed forces but also a great effort for nonproliferation, because what at present applies to our part of the world has no reason to be extended elsewhere, and we are well decided to do everything possible in order that there should be no proliferation, that the balance of forces elsewhere in the world should not be expressed in megaton terms. The French will be as active as one can be in order to limit, to control, to prohibit any form of proliferation.

This is our situation in regard to East-West. In some respect, everyone of you understands and everyone of you would agree that every people should be master of its destiny, therefore there should be no extensions to other parts of the world of what is at present the situation in Europe and in the Atlantic, between East and West.

You are aligned, you, we, but we support nonalignment wherever possible and we certainly support it in the south and our policies in developing countries are very close.

The situation is different in your part of the world, the Pacific, and in our part of the world, and I wish you would understand that therefore the conclusions on what should be done in the field may be different too. Exchanges of views between governments, but exchanges of views between all those who help public opinion to define policies and, as I said at the beginning of this address, therefore exchanges of views with journalists, with all the opinion makers. [sentence as received]

It is not only in this field of East-West relations that we can, must, have further discussions. I would like to give you another example. You, we, want to be independent, although members of an alliance. We want to be independent with regard to our future, in particular with regard to our economic future. You, we, have the scientific, technological, cultural environment which justifies ambitions that we should be among the first in the world in some development, in advance technology. It is a right which we should demand. We do not accept tomorrow to be only subcontractors of some big multinationals that would use our territories and our workers. Then we think that we are good enough and we should have the ambition to be in some fields the promoters and the masters of some developments. That new technological development goes with the market short of which it cannot be paid. [sentenced as received] Your market is not large enough for a substantial, original, technological development in the most advanced fields. Ours is not either. True, that through the European Community we have enlarged our market to something like 250 million inhabitants, but this still proves to be insufficient, possibly because our policies, our common policies in Europe have not dealt enough with industrial and technological development. Still, we feel there is a great interest, a great mutual interest, in favor of a mutual cooperation between us in that respect.

To be present here in Australia, in this part of the world, in joint ventures with you, would [as received] of the world. It would give us certainly facilities also to use your gifts and talents in the scientific and technological fields with a larger market being open to such productions.

I maintain, and this is one of the purposes of my visit here, as I told your prime minister this morning, that a great effort of reflection and imagination should be made in order that industrial cooperation should be entered into much more systematically between Australia and the members of the European Community.

Of course, you have already started with Britain, you have started with Germany. We think that we, French, can also be part of that game. All the more as now more and more, you will see the advanced technology development in Europe being undertaken jointly between enterprises belonging to the various members of the European Community.

One of the aims of my visit here is to see how we can go further in joint venturing. It is only through joint ventures that the transfer of technology can be made. One does not transfer technology simply by sending books, in which technology is being described. Transfer of technology means transfer of know-how, of practical experience, and that no industry will enter into unless it has a direct interest in it. Therefore, joint ventures are needed between us, and I very much hope that this will be considered in the years to come.

These were, ladies and gentlemen, just two examples of the kind of discussions into which we feel we should enter now systematically between Australia and France. As you have already done, as I hope you will do more and more, with our partners of the community too. I could have taken many more examples than those, for instance, our common position with regard to some aspects of the world economic order, the rates of exchanges, the unpredictable fluctuation of which is a disincentive to investment, the level of the rates of interests in the world of market economy, or I could have referred to our cultural exchanges and how much benefit we can gain from further cultural exchanges in the support to our own national cultures. Maybe some of these points, or others, will come in the present time of questions and answers.

I am very grateful for your attention. I don't know you, I don't know your country. It was therefore difficult for me to address a great people like the Australian through the media when I don't know them. But I hope that during our questions and answers time I will be better adjusted to what is of real interest to you.

I thank you very much.

Part II

AB221230 Paris Diplomatic Information Service in English 1100 GMT 22 Nov 83

["Second and last part" of press conference in French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson in Canberra on 16 November 1983]

[Text] Question: Ian Davis, Melbourne AGE.

Australia's recent perceptions of France have been highly coloured by the French nuclear tests in the Pacific and Australia has proposed a nuclear free zone in the South Pacific, but one which would allow the transit of nuclear vessels but stop French nuclear tests. France has already shown opposition to the proposal. If the proposal included a ban on nuclear transits as proposed by Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands, would France accept the declaration of a nuclear free zone in the Pacific?

The minister: These are important issues and they must be discussed seriously. As I said earlier, we think that every effort must be made in order that there be no proliferation. Every effort should be made that the system or balance of forces in Europe should not prevail elsewhere in the world, therefore that no nuclear threat can be introduced elsewhere in the world. Then we will agree.

My second point, however, is that there is nothing more dangerous, history has shown, than a pretended system of arms control that cannot be controlled.

Limitation goes with control -- if it does not it's a premium to cheaters -- those that will cheat. We are not ready to enter into a system where we would, of course, sign in good faith but where others could be of bad faith and could not be controlled. We support, and I said so in the United Nations, more than a year ago, fifteen months ago, we support any regional scheme of arms control, including nuclear, provided it can be put under proper control.

Coming to the idea of nuclear free zones, these can be controlled on land. No one can say how a control can be made in oceans. Therefore we are not in favour of nuclear free zones in any region which includes very large strips of ocean. As you may well know, this has been the main problem with the Ilatelelco agreement which was signed by a number of Latin American countries. In South America it could be controlled but when it comes to the Carribean seas there is no proper way and it was never finally concluded, however significant were the efforts and the determination of many to come to a conclusion so this is my answer for the zone of the Pacific.

Question: Colin Brammall, CANBERRA TIMES.

Mr Cheysson, you opened your speech today by laying down some of the principles on which French foreign policy is based and two of those were the right to self-determination and the right of peoples to be master of their own destiny. In the light of those remarks, I would like to ask you, will New Caledonia's future be decided in a referendum for all French people or will it be restricted to residents of New Caledonia or to New Caledonian native people. If so what will be the criteria for eligibility? Will the criteria have, for example, any similarity with the request by the Independent Front which is seeking a franchise limited to persons born in New Caledonia who have at least one parent born in New Caledonia?

The minister: I repeat what I said. We believe in self-determination everywhere in the world. That we have said in the case of some territories or countries to the anger of some of our great friends. Of course, if we do so for the others we also do so for ourselves. France has had throughout history a vocation for emancipation. This vocation for a government like mine, my party, and also the French people -- this vocation we want to respect and it is the case for New Caledonia.

You know the situation in New Caledonia as well and, maybe for some of you, better than I. You know that this situation has developed to a point where the largest community in that territory the Melanesians, are not represented in the posts that control the country -- economic positions, administrative and political positions in proportion to their numbers. Neither are they in the educational system. It is very important that progress should be made. Therefore very shortly after we were called to government we adopted a number of bills that meant reforms, giving a better chance, giving the appropriate chance to all the people of New Caledonia, in particular those who until now had that chance. These reforms are working pretty well.

With regard to the political status of New Caledonia, my colleague Georges Lemoine, when he went there last May, expressed a policy of government in very clear terms. It was reaffirmed on the occasion of a round table which took place in France in July in which the principles of our action were clearly laid out. It will now be reaffirmed once more but it will be brought one step further as my colleague Georges Lemoine will be in Noumea in a couple of days and will be there for negotiations. The idea that the civilization of the people of New Caledonia should be respected, the Melanesians have an equal right to respect of their civilization as a culture as any one else. [sentences as received] Therefore a status should be adopted as soon as possible.

Our intention is that it should be passed before the French parliament in the spring session. A status should be adopted that can lead to a process of self-determination the final result of it being that the people of New Caledonia will have the choice. They will decide. The choice can bear on independence. It can bear on any other status. But they will have the choice and this does not exclude independence provided when the time comes after that process of self-determination, provided the people clearly see what they want and when I say the people I mean all the people of New Caledonia, provided they say clearly what they want and that the material conditions have been fulfilled in between. This is that process into which we have entered. And you know very well that any other process could have led to the most dramatic situation. As a result of the facts as they are now, and I told you a little earlier that the most dangerous one is the imbalance between Melanesians and others in the schools, in the administration in land ownership.

Question: Peter Young, Channel 10.

Could you explain to the Australian public why France continues to test their nuclear weapons in our part of the world with all the dangers of fall-out and pollution rather than in your own back yard?

The Minister: You could have asked the British when they were testing in Australia or now now that they are testing in Nevada. The reason is very simple. Progress, if one can use that word when it bears on nuclear armaments, progress in the last years has been mostly in terms of the explosive, the utilization of explosive in nuclear armament, the reduction of the size of the bombs and you know that as a result of that there has been a fall of 25 percent in the megatonnage resulting from that explosive. Therefore testing has been mostly until now on the explosive. Such testing, now that it is done underground, can only be done in certain geological structures which do not exist in Europe. They exist in North America, they exist in the Pacific, Australia included -- its so called basalt structures. And therefore no underground experiment of such explosives can be done but in such structures.

Testing of other parts of the nuclear apparatus can be done elsewhere, testing on communications with the submarines. Testing on the submarines themselves on radar that can track submarines -- all that can be done elsewhere. But with regard to the nuclear explosion itself, and as long as there is further progress on the nuclear explosion itself, this can only be done in basalt structures.

Question: Geoff Leach, ABC TV

Indo-China is an area in which France has very close interest. What do you see as Australia's role in Indo-China and would you like to see any changes regarding its policy towards Kampuchea?

The Minister: Yes, I would like to see Vietnam changing its policy with regard to Kampuchea. The invasion of Kampuchea by Vietnamese troops is unacceptable. We have denounced it and we keep on denouncing it. I did it myself in Hanoi. I did it myself because I was in Hanoi and I have no shame for it.

Not only do we have very old relations with the Vietnamese, not only do we have great sympathy when they suffer from hunger as has been the case in the past few years due to economic mismanagement but also due to the climatic conditions. [sentence as received] I think it is quite normal that we should keep relations with the Vietnamese people as some aspects of their culture are linked with ours. But mostly, I think it is important that countries like yours, like mine and there should be many others should go there and tell them there why we cannot accept their occupation of Kampuchea. How we should like to help them become more independent from their great ally, from their big brother in Moscow. This should be said out there.

I cannot understand those who criticize the fact that we have relations with Vietnam. May I make a comparison. We all denounce the presence of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan but we all keep on discussing with the Russians. How can one expect the occupation of Kampuchea coming to an end without discussing with the Vietnamese? To me it is incomprehensible. Yes we have relations with Vietnam and we will have more. Does that mean that we can expect a fast development? I am afraid that I am not optimistic because we all know and if we know it why not say so, that the Vietnamese may not be free to withdraw from Kampuchea. The occupation of Kampuchea by Vietnamese troops is now part of the Russian-Chinese game and, as you know very well, tensions between these two great powers is not over. And I wonder why one of the two super-great powers, China and the USSR, would change either the support to Pol Pot by one, or the insistence of Vietnam to keep on being present in Kampuchea by the other. So I do not feel confident that there will be an early withdrawal.

Still, I do think that if there could be a real controlled control of the withdrawal, it would be progress. I feel that we should try and help those Cambodian refugees in Thailand to return home if they wish to do so and if their return home could be controlled or supervised by international bodies. That would give them facilities for that purpose and that could guarantee that their security is assured. There can be progress and we should all work for it. The final progress would be complete withdrawal. I am afraid that this is not going to happen overnight.

Question: Ted Knez, OXWI Network

You have been reported recently expressing serious concern over the danger posed to Yasir 'Arafat and the threat that his demise would bring to the stability and peace of the Middle East. Why in your view does Syria want to defeat or remove Mr 'Arafat and has Syria's interference brought the Middle East closer to the threshold of another war?

The Minister: When you say another war, if you mean another war in the Near East, yes I am afraid that there could be more war out there. If you mean a world war, I do not believe it, because of the fact that the two super powers are pretty well self-controlled. But coming to the first part of your question, we, French, will stand for a final settlement in the Middle East that respects the right of every state and every people. Among the people of the Middle East there is the Palestinian people who have suffered a lot -- there are very many gifted people among them. They are a few million and they have the same rights as Australians, French, Israelis, Americans to have a homeland, to have a right to have a state they can consider as their state, be it a state on their own or be it merged, joined on to another state. This we shall defend as long as we can but one must admit that the natural forces in the Middle East go right against this approach of which I have spoken.

Syrians and Israelis may consider that it is their common interest that the Palestinians be divided in several parts and the Israeli control the Palestinians on the occupied territories and the Syrians control the others. Be it their thinking or not, I know they behave as if it were. Yasir 'Arafat, head of PLO, is the only entity that can speak on behalf of all Palestinians. Therefore is it just chance that one tried to crush him in Beirut no more than a year ago and tried to crush him again and dismantle the PLO in Tripoli this time? We don't think this is just chance but we maintain that the unity of Lebanon goes with the hope and the expectation for the 400,000 Palestinians that live there, that peace in the Middle East goes with expression of the rights of every state, Israel included of course, and every people, Palestinian included. This is the reason why we have denounced the joint efforts made to crush the PLO in Tripoli. When I say joint I mean the Palestinians that have rebelled against 'Arafat, Syrian and Lebanese forces. The sea blockade which as you know has been imposed by Israel. [sentence as received]

Question: Greg Widsmith, Macquarie Broadcasting Services

Mr Cheysson, can I go back to the question of uranium exports and shipments to France. Did you have discussions today with the Australian Government on why those shipments should be resumed? If they are not, what effect do you think that could have on relations between the two governments and indeed on Australian relations with the EEC?

The Minister: If I tell you that we did not mention uranium trade, you wouldn't believe me and you would be right. I don't mean that I have asked the Australian Government why. They decide. The sovereign state and the government can decide as they find proper with regard to shipping to our country. Until now, normally we have had no problem, mean that the quantities of uranium that have been shipped to France still a little larger than the contract has provided. [sentence as received] There had been advanced shipments some months ago, we shall see whether the rest of the contract will be executed. But we have a few months before we know. Finally, yes, we will be surprised -- this is another statement if -- the contract that was signed freely by companies is not to be executed. I cannot tell you that we will suffer from the shortage, as you very well know, there is plenty of uranium available in the world.

Question: Graham Thomson, News Ltd.

Mr Cheysson, do you consider it reasonable to expect genuine agreement at either the Geneva talks on the European medium-range missiles or at the strategic arms reduction talks when a large number of the West's nuclear force, those of France and Britain, are excluded from those discussions?

The Minister: That confusion surprises me from an Australian. That the Soviet should have used that argument, which is of very bad faith, I am not surprised, but they know very well, as you know that our forces are not meant to meet only the threat resulting from the INF. They are meant to meet the threat of all nuclear forces. We are threatened by some 9,000 warheads against which we have 98. So to put in balance the SS-20 which are only a very very small part of the Soviet arsenal, and the whole of our nuclear forces makes no sense.

They are not on the same level. This is all the more true that most of our forces are on submarines and the nuclear submarines belong to what the Russians and Soviets call the strategic nuclear armament which is not discussed in the INF. Anyway, we are not going, the British are not going to accept that our nuclear armament be taken into account. Neither are the INF -- they don't belong there, nor in the global nuclear discussions to start.

When our forces are, as I have said, of a total of 162 British and French against 18,000 American and Russian, 9,000 if we take the Soviet, the day when there is a better comparison possible between nuclear forces -- that day, as my president said from the tribune of the United Nations and as Mrs Thatcher confirmed a few days later in the United States and, since then, in the British Parliament, that day we'll consider joining discussion between the five nuclear powers.

This should be preceded first by the fulfillment of conditions which are a dramatic reduction in the total of nuclear arms involved that change the nature of nuclear deterrence, secondly by the decisions made on the anti-missile armament problem.

Question: Kate Carrigan, Australian Radio News.

If the Australian Government does continue to ban exports of uranium to France, will your government be considering any type of retaliatory action against the Australian Government and what type of action will that be?

The Minister: May I say, my visit is not exactly in the retaliatory spirit unless you consider that this long address which I made was a kind of retaliation against the Australian press. No, we are not going to talk to the Australians in those terms.

Question: Paddy McGuinness, FINANCIAL REVIEW.

May I ask you since you are going to Indonesia, what is the French position in regard to the invasion and incorporation of East Timor by Indonesia? And how will you differentiate, if you do differentiate, from the condemnation of Vietnam's action in Kampuchea or Russian in Afghanistan?

The Minister: The first question should be whether the previous legal status of Timor was entirely conformed to the principle which we defend anyway, now the Indonesian have got into East Timor and you have put the question. [sentence as received] At the very start of that invasion as you say, we certainly condemn it. Since then, as Australians know better than anyone, there has been substantial change in Indonesia, of Indonesian presence in East Timor. If I am not mistaken quoting a report, a report which was made a few months ago by a team which has been sent to East Timor and which, if I remember correctly was led by an Australian member of Parliament. This report has been considered very carefully in France and although it doesn't change the legal character of the Indonesian presence, it shows that great efforts have undoubtedly been made in order to give to people of East Timor the right of expression and also that there undoubtedly has been largely progress with regard to the standard of living, conditions of life of the population out there. The result being that when it comes to vote in the United Nations we now abstain and we should see how it develops in the months and years to come.

MALAYSIAMAHATHIR, SOMARE AGREE ON INCREASED COOPERATION

BK191135 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir and his Papua New Guinea counterpart, Mr Michael Thomas Somare, have agreed on increased cooperation in the cultural, technical, and diplomatic fields during talks in Kuala Lumpur today. In disclosing details of discussions, the deputy secretary general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Datuk Mon Jamaluddin, says a cultural and technical cooperation agreement between the two countries will be signed within 3 months. At present Malaysia extends its technical cooperation program to Papua New Guinea.

Papua New Guinea will also appoint its resident high commissioner in Malaysia next year. Presently, Papua New Guinea's resident high commissioner in Jakarta is also accredited to Malaysia. Datuk Mon Jamaluddin adds that Malaysia has agreed to step up its purchase of sea products from Papua New Guinea. Officials of both countries will also work to overcome the lag of shipping transportation facilities. At the request of the Papua New Guinea, Malaysia will continue to assist it in research of rubber and oil palm production.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON BILATERAL TIES WITH BHUTAN

BK221321 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Malaysia and Bhutan have reached agreement on a number of issues with regard to bilateral relations. These include investment, commerce, and training schemes. The agreement was reached between the Malaysian delegation headed by Datuk Musa Hitam and the Bhutanese side headed by King Jigme Singye Wangchuk in the country's capital Thimbu.

The communique released at the end of the 4-day visit says a closer relationship between the two countries will be to Malaysia's advantage in the long run as Bhutan has the potential to develop further. Its rich natural resources have not been fully exploited. The deputy prime minister says Malaysia should take the opportunity to provide help to the kingdom. Our correspondent Mokhtar Kadir reports that Bhutan's king was impressed of development in Malaysia which struck a balance between spiritual and physical development. His majesty said such a concept of development is compatible with conditions existing in Bhutan.

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON SITUATION IN CYPRUS

BK211108 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Malaysia welcomes all efforts to bring about reconciliation of the two communities in Cyprus. The minister of foreign affairs, Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie, says the international community must now endeavor to rebuild mutual trust and confidence between the Turkish Cypriots and the Greek Cypriots on the island. The international community must contribute toward finding a solution on the basis of what is right for Cyprus and Cypriots of both communities.

Tan Sri Ghazali, in a statement issued in Kuala Lumpur today, also says that negative words and actions must be avoided as they would only make such efforts difficult. The minister explained that the United Nations is the most appropriate forum for pursuing a [word indistinct] and effective negotiating process towards finding and enduring settlement of the problem. Tan Sri Ghazali added that Malaysia does not favor any move that will lead to the dismemberment of a sovereign nation. Malaysia will continue to fully support the rights of the Cypriots and the legitimate demands of the Turkish Cypriots as copartners of the Greek Cypriot community on the island. The Turkish Cypriot community has the right to be heard at all forums where the intercommunity question of Cyprus was raised.

UMNO TO STEP UP CAMPAIGN FOR AMENDMENT BILL

BK221425 Hong Kong AFP in English 0829 GMT 22 Nov 83

[By N.G. Nair]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Nov 22 (AFP) -- The main ruling party, the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), today decided to step up its campaign for the early enactment of the Constitution amendment bill, which does away with the need for royal assent to legislation. A hastily-convened session of the party's Politburo was held to discuss the inconclusive outcome of Sunday's meeting between a party delegation and the Malay rulers on the issue.

Today's meeting was chaired by Prime Minister and Party President Mahathir bin Mohamed. Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam returned from an official visit to Bhutan last night and cancelled his trip to the Commonwealth conference in New Delhi to attend. Political observers said that Datuk Musa's sudden return indicated that discussions between the UMNO delegation and the rulers, who are constitutional heads of nine of Malaysia's 13 states, had almost reached a stalemate.

The enactment of the bill, which parliament passed in August, is held up as the Vang Di Pertuan Agung (King), Sultan Ahmad Shah, has withheld his assent in deference to the ruler's opposition to provisions which curb their powers.

UMNO is arranging programmes for the prime minister to address UMNO gatherings during his forthcoming visit to several states. Dr Mahathir will explain that the bill, far from weakening the constitutional monarchy, would strengthen it by clarifying the vagueness in present provisions about the king's discretionary powers. This clarification would minimise the risk of a clash between the royalty and elected representatives in the future, the prime minister holds.

According to informed sources, a meeting of the Supreme Council scheduled for December 3 might be advanced if necessary to coordinate the information campaign.

Also attending the Politburo meeting at the Prime Minister's Office were the three UMNO vice presidents, the heads of the youth and women's wing of the party, and Finance Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah. Sources said that Ghafar Baba, the senior vice president who headed the UMNO delegation, briefed the meeting on Sunday's talks with the rulers.

The rulers take exception to two provisions. One says that a bill passed by parliament shall become law 15 days after it is presented to the king for assent even if the assent is withheld. The other provision transfers the king's right to declare a national emergency to the prime minister.

In a statement issued on Sunday, the rulers said that new proposals on the amendment made by the UMNO delegation at the meeting needed further consideration. Informed sources said the delegation told the rulers that while the provision to do away with royal assent was necessary at the federal level, it need not apply to the states. Follow-up legislation doing away with the sultan's assent for bills passed their legislatures need not be introduced, the delegation said.

Certain rulers suggested that the king would assent to the constitution amendment bill to facilitate the implementation of other provisions provided the offending articles were withdrawn by later legislation, sources said. The rulers' side also suggested that the 15 day time limit for enactment should be increased to 30 days, they said. Party sources said that another meeting between the UMNO delegation and the rulers would probably be held soon.

BATASANG SPEAKER REACTS TO SUCCESSION PLAN

OW221445 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] The Batasang [National Assembly] committee on the revision of laws, codes and constitutional amendments meets on Thursday to draft a resolution amending the constitution to implement the KBL [Kilusang, Bagong Lipunan] caucus decision. The resolution will center on a KBL decision to make the Batasang speaker the successor to the president and to hold elections for president and vice president in 1987. The proposed charter amendment will be submitted to the people during a plebiscite slated for mid-January next year.

Meanwhile, Batasang Speaker Querube Makalintal reacted to the decision making the Batasang speaker the successor to the president. Jose Carlos has this report.

[Begin recording] [Carlos] Batasang speaker Querube Makalintal **says** the proposed one-man successor to the president is a more stable arrangement than the Executive Committee but preferred the prime minister as successor to the president instead of the speaker. Particularly, he wanted Prime Minister Cesar Virata to succeed the president since his confidence has been recognized here and abroad. However, KBL assemblymen in a closed-door caucus yesterday decided that the Batasang speaker succeed the presidency instead of the Executive Committee, should the president be incapacitated before the holding of the 1987 presidential elections. This proposal will be submitted to the people in a plebiscite next January, and should this be approved, Makalintal becomes the successor until the Batasang elections in May 1984. Asked if he was prepared to succeed the president, Makalintal had this answer.

[Makalintal] Well, I don't know. I can't **answer** that question. You know, (?this part of) preparation is a very difficult one to assess oneself. One can only do his best, you see. And, of course, I need the cooperation of well-meaning people. But though, I really don't foresee myself in that capacity; so now, I don't think that it will take place at all.

[Carlos] At present, the 72-year-old speaker has plans of retiring. However, if the party leadership asks him to run, he may run in the Batasang elections. If he wins, he said, this does not guarantee him the position of Batasang speaker, since the newly-elected members of the ruling party may choose another speaker. [end recording]

U.S. AMBASSADOR HITS 'SORE SPOT' AMONG FILIPINOS

HK221314 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 22 Nov 83 p 6

[Article by Jesus Bigornia: "Armacost Has Pricked Filipino Sensibilities"]

[Excerpt] Perceptive observers of the local political scene cannot help but ponder the implications of the latest pronouncements of United States Ambassador Michael Armacost. Certain suggestions made by the American envoy in "the spirit of friendship" and concern have pricked Filipino sensibilities. Coming as they do on the heels of what is believed to be an American-inspired move to restore the vice presidency in the Philippines, suggestions are seen here as signs of American intervention in Philippine domestic affairs. The ambassador's speech before the Makati Rotary Club has indeed, touched a sore spot in Philippine-American relations.

In his speech, Mr Armacost says "we have no desire to meddle" yet in the next breath he urges the conduct of "free and fair elections."

The envoy's statement that "no help from outside will produce durable results unless accompanied by actions which will restore the confidence of Filipinos in the future economy and the stability and predictability of political arrangements" is interpreted as a threat to withhold United States economic assistance to the Philippines. Filipinos, traditionally friendly towards the United States, are not entirely happy with the American envoy. And while they do not advocate the extreme socialist approach that Fidel Castro took, he might have had a point when he told the United States "sin quota, pero sin amo" (no quota, but no boss).

U.S. AID SHOWS EXTENT OF STUDY, DISCUSSION

HK221358 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 21 Nov 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Adding Muscle to RP Economy"]

[Text] The \$50 million Economic Support Fund [ESF], released last week by the U.S. Government to the Philippines for major road and school-building programs throughout the country proves to what extent the revised RP-U.S. military bases agreement was studied, discussed and finally approved.

For one, the U.S. Government showed its determination to respond quickly to Philippine requests for rapid disbursements of the ESP and to do away with procedures that would create red tape or become intrusive to continued RP-U.S. relations.

Thus barely six months after the new memorandum of agreement was signed by Benjamin Romualdez, Philippine ambassador to the U.S., and Michael Armacost, U.S. ambassador to the Philippines, implementation of its more salient points was effected with the minimum of obstacles.

But this was not all.

In operation now is a two-tier structure for a joint committee that would act on and resolve at the earliest possible time possible disagreements that could develop as a result of the revised bases agreement.

If, for example, problems should crop up, U.S. base commanders will work jointly with the Philippine overall base commander or his deputies to resolve them. Failing in this, the problem may be elevated by either side to an implementation sub-committee headed on each side by a senior military commander. And if still no solution is found, the problem could be raised to a joint committee headed jointly by Ambassadors Romualdez and Armacost.

Already, U.S. military facility commanders have taken steps to make use of Philippine produce and goods in an effort to help domestic development.

During the past fiscal year which for the U.S. Government ends on September 30, Clark Air Base spent \$35.1 million for services, construction, and supply items, of which \$27.3 million or 77 percent was in the form of local purchases. The Clark commissary spent over \$1 million on Philippine goods.

Furthermore, the U.S. military recently signed a contract with Petrofil amounting to some P6 [Philippine pesos] million a year to supply the U.S. facilities with gasoline.

Even after the release of the \$50 million ESF, Philippine and U.S. staffmen have begun negotiations over the guidelines which will determine the 1985-1989 ESF program. The U.S. Government has agreed to make 50 per cent of ESF money available for development projects, the remaining 50 per cent to go to agricultural, education and energy programs, among other things.

Impact of the ESF allocations will be felt most in Region 3 (central Luzon and Metro Manila) over the next two years.

More than 200 projects have been identified and prepared for the region. This represents about \$85 million in funding over the next two years and makes up for more than 40 per cent of the total ESF commitments for the years 1982 to 1982.

Region 3 is also expected to receive about 20 per cent of the \$50 million grant agreement for schools and roads in 1984, including the construction of more than 500 school rooms and approximately 300 kilometers of local roads.

The economic assistance, not to mention the military assistance that is forthcoming, are ample proof of the sincerity of both parties. More than this, however, is its contribution to the balance of power in Asia upon which the security of the Philippines and its ASEAN neighbors depends and the value the U.S. military facilities have for American security in this part of the world.

Additional Japanese Aid Sought

HK221330 Manila Business Day in English 21 Nov 83 p 2

[Article by reporter Conrado R. Banal III]

[Excerpts] The government is seeking additional help from Japan as the Philippines faces import-financing constraints because of its foreign debt problems.

Asking for conversion of a \$250-million loan from Japan's Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) into a commodity loan, the government also wants Japan to help rehabilitate or modernize manufacturing plants that are either idle or running into technical problems, particularly those bought from Japan.

Government's bid to convert the 13th yen loan package into a commodity loan is "not expected to be realized easily," a source in government said. There may be opposition from big Japanese firms which are looking forward to contracts in Philippine development projects using the 13th yen loan, he added.

Japan however has indicated support for government's rehabilitation of distressed industries, the source said.

Anticipating a scarcity of foreign financing, the government has asked for Japanese assistance in rehabilitating industrial plants, and consequently in raising national production in the next few years. That aim requires spending foreign exchange for technical assistance and spare parts from abroad.

Sources said Japanese firms may be asked to come in as government partners in rehabilitated firms, and share the costs of changes in the plants. This scheme may ease the foreign exchange burden from the rehabilitation effort. Sources claimed that the Philippine economy needs to use these plants, now idle or underutilized, to increase production because importation of new equipment may have to be discouraged in the next few years.

BILL SEEKS BAN ON SUBVERSIVE POLITICAL GROUPS

OW221451 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1300 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] A Batasang bill was filed today seeking to prevent registration of subversive, violent-prone political groups. The bill carries a constitutional amendment proposed for approval in the projected plebiscite on charter amendments concerning election reforms slated for January next year.

Political Affairs Minister Leonardo Perez led several assemblymen in sponsoring the resolution. The present Constitution allows, by implication, the registration of political parties, including those that seek to seize political power through violence. Meanwhile, the Batasang has okayed, on third and final reading, the proposed charter amendment calling for the election of Batasang members by province and district.

AGRAVA BOARD SEEKS WITNESSES TO AQUINO MURDER

OW190534 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 18 Nov 83

[Text] The possibility that some people other than the military escorts may have seen the actual shooting of former Senator Benigno Aquino, Jr, last 21 August upon arrival at the MIA [Manila International Airport] was pursued closely by the Agrava fact-finding board today. The board divided itself into three teams at the MIA to check out the possibility of eyewitnesses and to verify the testimony of former AVSECOM [Aviation Security Command] Chief Brigadier General Luther Custodio on security preparations for Aquino's return. More on this latest ocular inspection by the Agrava board from Jose Carlos.

[Begin Video recording] [Cut to scene of inspection at airport] [Carlos] The board chairman, Corazon Agrava, and members observed the (?routinary) procedures and the people authorized to close in an airplane that has just parked. It was clear that a good number of people come near the plane upon parking and they include, among others, airlines personnel, maintenance crew, cleaners and catering service men, as well as the medical staff. It was very possible that someone witnessed the actual shooting, according to some of the legal staff of the board.

In yesterday's public hearing, former Aviation Security Command Chief Gen Luther Custodio bared before the board that more than 15 civilian personnel were a few meters away from the scene of assassination. The board's general counsel, Andres Narvasa, said these people will be subpoenaed to testify and shed light on the assassination. This will include (Eric Flores) and (Ilifonso Torres), monitoring personnel at the MIA, who might have witnessed the actual shooting through the airport's television ramp monitoring TV system when China Airlines Flight No. 811 bearing the former senator landed and parked at bay area No. 8.

The ramp monitoring system, which is an extension of a similar system of the control tower, effects the smooth entrance up to the parking area and exit of airplanes into and out of the apron level. The system, with nine cameras scanning the landing and ramp areas, makes visible the vicinity within which the plane is parked. This includes the bridge stairway where Aquino was escorted by soldiers and supposed to have been brought to the van.

The system has a recording capability but failed to record the arrival of China Airlines Flight 811. However, it has an audio recording between the plane's pilot and control tower on that tragic day.

Attorney Raul Gonzales, president of the National Bar Association, who joined the ocular inspection, told KBS [Kanlaon Broadcasting System] News somebody must have seen the shooting itself.

[Cut to Gonzales being interviewed] [Gonzales -- in progress] Almost impossible that nobody witnessed that tragic incident, because there are so many people who are authorized to get through here; and as a matter of fact, the medical office, clinic, of MIA is right across the bay area of Gate 8, and it's just a few meters away from the stairs itself.

[Carlos] Narvasa, on the other hand, was less candid about the impressions he gathered from this ocular inspection.

[Cut to Narvasa being interviewed on an airport parking ramp] [Narvasa] All I can tell you is we have seen what we want to see, but I am sorry that I cannot tell you what we have seen [laughter]

[Unidentified reporter] There is still questions?

[Narvasa] O, there are still questions which come up, which we still want to have answered.

[Carlos] Narvasa also told newsmen that PRC Metrocom [Philippine Constabulary Metropolitan Command] Chief General Prospero Olivas has turned over to the board several tapes, including the government's reenactment version of the Aquino assassination. [end video recording]

New Leads Pursued

OW211547 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The fact-finding board, chaired by former Justice Corazon Agrava, is now pursuing other leads in the killing of former Senator Benigno Aquino, Jr. Jose Carlos has the latest.

[Begin video recording] [Cut to scene of Agrava Board hearing] [Carlos] The newly formed investigating arm of the board, headed by Deputy General Counsel (Francisco Vilia), is looking into these leads. (Vilia) did not give details of these leads until after reporting them to the board. These leads came from letters submitted to the board by various sectors which, a board member said, were indicative of the growing cooperation of the public in the investigation. The board member, who would like to remain anonymous, told this reporter that the board is very confident something substantial will come out of the investigation. He said he hopes the opposition will also participate and called on them to present their witnesses.

This noon, the Office of the President, through Presidential Assistant Juan Tuvera, submitted 22 documents to the board, which resumed public hearing this morning at the SSS [Social Security System] Building in Quezon City. General Counsel Andres Narvasa said these documents mainly pertained to the communications between the former senator and the president. Former Aviation Security Command [AVSECOM] chief who continued his testimony said aside from the boarding team, there were other military personnel who entered the plane bearing the former senator.

[Cut to former AVSECOM chief General Luther Custodio, testifying] [Custodio] There were other military men, sir, but I am not sure, because, as I have stated, there are intelligence personnel that is connected with [words indistinct] that is also assigned to the area, but I am not so sure of their whereabouts, Sir, but I am sure that there were military men that were connected with the customs, immigrations, and quarantine (?department authorities).

[Cut to Agrava board members] [Carlos] From Custodio's testimony, it was gathered during the cross-examination by private lawyers that there were lapses in the security arrangements for the former senator. One of them was that the escort team did not follow strictly Custodio's instructions in fetching and protecting Aquino. It was also learned that the alleged gun used in killing Aquino was not fingerprinted until after a press conference at about 5 in the afternoon of 21 August by Custodio and General Prospero Olivas, PC Metrocom [Philippine Constabulary Metropolitan Command] chief, who were among those who handled the gun after the assassination.

After Custodio's testimony, the board will call to the witness stand the four team leaders assigned to secure the airplane, including the boarding party team leader who escorted Aquino from the plane to the AVSECOM Van. The next public hearing is set for Wednesday. [end recording]

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